

## Mitchell pleads innocent

By Rafael I. Santos  
Variety News Staff

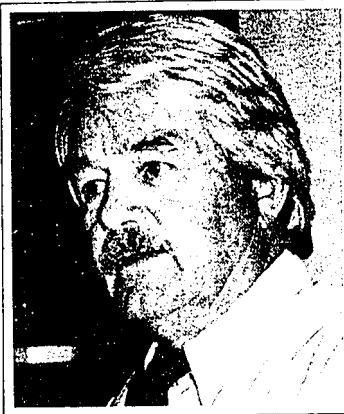
SAIPAN attorney Theodore R. Mitchell is free to travel in and out of the Northern Marianas provided that he obtains permission from the Superior Court in a stipulation or through a hearing.

While acknowledging that the allegations against Mitchell are serious, Presiding Judge Alex Castro chose not to restrict the movement of the lawyer. Castro

### Special judge to hear 'obstructing justice' case

noted that the defendant's profession requires him to travel a lot to represent clients.

Mitchell made his first appearance yesterday in a new criminal case filed against him by the Office of the Attorney General. The new case accuses the long-time Saipan attorney of tampering with a witness, an offense which carries a maximum penalty of one



Theodore R. Mitchell  
year imprisonment.

On February 3, Mitchell allegedly made threatening remarks to Michael Dotts, a lawyer who has been subpoenaed as a witness in Criminal Case No. 93-137, in

which Mitchell was convicted of assault and battery.

Mitchell allegedly told Dotts, "I'll come back from the grave and kill you." The incident occurred during a dinner function for lawyers and judges at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Sentencing hearing in the assault case has been set for March 13 during which a number of people, including Dotts, will be testifying. Dotts and Mitchell have represented businessman Larry Hillblom in the past, but the two lawyers saw each other on the opposing sides in a number of cases in the CNMI Superior Court.

Cheryl M. Gill, head of the criminal division, asked the court last week to issue a warrant for

the arrest of Mitchell. At the same time, she asked that the defendant be required to post a \$5,000 cash bail and ordered to surrender all travel documents.

Yesterday however, Gill withdrew the request for a cash bail but asked that Mitchell be ordered to surrender his passport to the court.

Defense lawyer Jeanne Rayphand wanted her client, who is also her law partner, to be released on his own recognizance, meaning the court will not require any bail to be posted in order for the defendant to remain free.

Judge Castro changed the cash bail to \$5,000 unsecured bond and decided not to require Mitchell to surrender his passport in consideration for his law practice.

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## Manglona tops Rota Concon delegate race

THE BOARD of Elections yesterday released unofficial election results from Rota indicating the top winners in the race for four delegate seats allocated for the First Senatorial District.

Figures released by Elections Executive Director Juan M. Diaz to the Variety show that former lieutenant governor Benjamin T. Manglona is headed for delegateship to the Third Constitutional Convention topping the field of eight candidates with 667 votes from Rota's two election precincts.

A far second is CPA Board Chairman and Governor's Rota representative Victor B. Hocog who garnered 525 votes followed by Teresita A. Santos who placed third overall with 515 votes.

Rounding up the top four slots is Justo S. Quitugua who appears headed for a victory



Benjamin T. Manglona

with 425 votes.

About 41 votes away is fifth finisher Vicente M. Mendiola who got 384 while Jonas M. Barcinas, the sixth overall came through with 362 votes.

Completing the Rota slate was Edward H. Manglona who placed seventh with 302 and Justin S. Manglona, eighth placer, with 232 votes.

## Governor won't wait for casino initiative

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday indicated plans to go directly to the people and talk about his plans to establish casino gaming in the Commonwealth as he maintained he would push legalization of gambling by law rather than by popular initiative.

In an interview yesterday, Tenorio said that although he does not have any problem with either a legislation or an initiative to legalize casino gaming, he would prefer that the speedier route be taken, that is through the legisla-

tive process.

"I am in favor of any means to do it but I am not going to wait for an initiative. We can do it by law right now, under the Constitution, so we are going to do it by law," said the governor.

"I am going to talk to the people maybe within the next month and tell them why we need to have casino gaming businesses here. I'm not going to wait," said the governor.

Tenorio made the statement in response to the recent action taken by the House on House Bill 9-368, the CNMI Casino Gaming Act during its last regular session.



Froilan C. Tenorio

The measure died after members through a majority vote, elected to kill the measure and shut the door on such a proposition.

Prior to that, the lower chamber also approved House Joint Legislative Initiative 9-15 seeking to amend the CNMI Constitution so

Continued on page 8

## PSS hiring found to be ineffective

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Education is entertaining the idea of hiring a private manpower service firm to assist the Public School System in the recruitment of American school teachers.

This developed as the Board agreed in yesterday's BOE meeting to let PSS personnel continue their recruitment venture in the U.S. mainland.

Vice Chairman Dino Jones pushed the idea of privatizing the recruitment based on his observation that PSS is not quite effective in dealing with the problem.

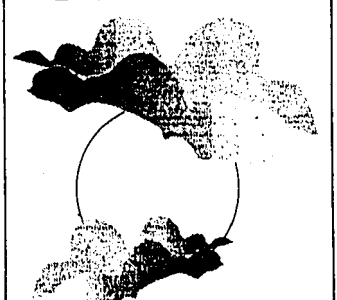
"We don't know how long these

Continued on page 8



Board of Education Vice Chairman Dino Jones (middle) explains the need to get assistance from a private manpower firm in recruiting American teachers. Board member Don Farrell (left) and BOE chairman Daniel Quitugua listen during yesterday's Board meeting.

## Weather Outlook



Mostly cloudy.

# World fails to curb global warming

**By GENE KRAMER**  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Governments pursuing business-as-usual environmental policies are turning a 1992 treaty to curb global warming into "an international joke," according to World Watch magazine.

The 166 countries that signed the Rio de Janeiro pact should "face the reality that, so far, the treaty has had little effect, and the world is still far from turning the climate problem around," World Watch said in its March-April issue.

Nearly three years after agreeing to curb releases into the atmosphere of carbon dioxide and other gases that contribute to rising average temperatures on the planet, "the world's governments have failed to take effective action to reduce carbon emissions," asserted the article, titled "Getting Warmer."

It attributed the inaction to the treaty's lack of a binding mandate to reduce gas emissions, resisted by the United States during the Bush administration.

The article said most nations favored such a mandate, "but the vehement opposition of the United States resulted in a last-minute compromise" which suggests - but does not require - that industrial countries hold emissions to the 1990 level by the year 2000.

The Rio pact's member nations are slated to gather for a review conference in Berlin on March 28.

World Watch is published by Worldwatch Institute, a private research and environment-monitoring organization based in Washington.

The article urged that the Berlin conference clarify requirements, establish penalties for failure to

comply and publicize independent measurement of greenhouse gas emissions by the top 25 countries.

"Public shaming could hurt a country's ability to do business in an increasingly global marketplace," said the article by Worldwatch Institute Vice President Christopher Flavin and researcher Odil Tunali.

It also called for changing World Bank lending priorities from coal power plants to solar, wind and other low-carbon energy technologies, and to rail and public transport.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Rafe Pomerance, chief U.S. negotiator on climate issues, said in an interview that the Clinton administration's goal in Berlin will be to strengthen commitments and establish policy guidelines aimed at mitigating climate change immediately after the turn of the century.

"In Rio, some countries hid their opposition to hard limits behind the obstructionist positions of the Bush administration," said the magazine.

President Clinton in 1993 affirmed the 2000 goal, but "results have been meager so far," World Watch said, blaming this on resistance from Congress and the auto industry.

It said U.S. carbon dioxide emissions, five times the per capita world level, are currently over the target level called for in 2000.

World Watch said European industrial countries have weakened their resolve since 1992, many relying "on the vague, non-binding language of the treaty to justify national goals weaker than a simple reading of the treaty would seem to call for."

Some pushed the date for achieving 1990 emission levels to the year 2005, while "others, such as Germany, have made the target easier by using an earlier base year with higher emissions. Finland decided to avoid setting a base year at all, and plans to freeze emissions only after 2000... France and Japan have come up with the guileful idea of stabilizing emissions per capita" justifying increases in proportion to population growth.

"Spain and Ireland have disregarded the treaty target entirely... Canada has evaded the issue by turning climate policy over to provincial

governments."

Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland, "small countries with minimal fossil fuel lobbies," are setting examples with measures such as emission levies, high fuel and auto taxes, subsidies for public and bicycle transportation, and promotion of natural gas and wind as energy sources.

Germany was cited for high energy taxes, encouragement of wind and solar power, and energy efficient buildings. But "support of the coal industry appears to be a higher priority in Germany than is (danger of) climate change," World Watch said.

"Most other European nations have fallen short even of Germany's halting record," it said, and last December, the European Union "finally delivered the coup de grace to a proposed Union-wide carbon tax."

Third World countries have resisted even symbolic measures since they give low priority to climate issues and many have "fossil fuel lobbies as least as powerful as those of Germany or the United States," the article said.

But their emissions are increasing at more than five times the rate of industrial countries and China last year became runnerup to the United States as the largest.

## Robbers explode grenade in busy Manila street, 7 injured

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - At least seven people were hurt Monday when a group of robbers exploded a hand grenade on a crowded street in Manila's downtown Quiapo district to cover their escape.

Police said the violence occurred at about 10:30 a.m. (0230 GMT), minutes after four armed men held up a cooking gas store and fled with about 300,000 pesos (dlsr 11,500).

Manila police chief Hermogenes Ebdane said a traffic officer gave chase and was about to collar one of the suspects when another shot but missed him, triggering a brief gunfight in one of the city's busiest commercial districts.

Ebdane quoted witnesses as saying one of the escaping robbers suddenly lobbed the grenade, wounding some vendors and pass-

ersby.

All the victims were treated with shrapnel wounds in nearby hospitals except for one man who had a gunshot wound, police said.

The man is being investigated as a possible suspect who may have been hit by the traffic officer

in the exchange of gunfire.

Probers suspect the robbers belong to the same group behind a recent series of pawnshop robberies in Manila.

In one of the pawnshop hold-ups, the robbers also threw a grenade at pursuing officers.

## Report: No evidence of murder in lion mauling

**By LEROY TILLMAN**  
WASHINGTON (AP) - An unidentified woman whose partially devoured body was found in the lions' pen at the National Zoo apparently bled to death after being attacked by the lions, according to a published report.

Police said they were working on figuring out how the woman got over the 9-foot (3-meter) wall and 26-foot (9-meter) moat that separate zoo visitors from a pair of African lions.

The Washington Post reported in Monday's editions that sources familiar with the autopsy said the woman died as a result of a mauling that caused massive blood loss. There was no other evidence of trauma on her body.

Police sources said they recovered two pieces of photo identification that resembled the woman, suggesting she was from Little

Rock, Arkansas. But they declined to make a positive identification.

A zookeeper going to feed the two lions housed in the compound found the victim's mutilated remains around 7 a.m. Saturday. She appeared to be in her mid-to late 20s. The nature of her injuries made it impossible to take fingerprints.

The Washington Times quoted an unnamed police detective as saying there was no evidence anyone had killed the woman and thrown her body into the lions' den, where a female named Asha resides with her mate, a male named Tana.

"The staff of the National Zoo is very saddened by this tragedy," said zoo public affairs chief Robert Hoage. "The safety of our visitors and animals is our primary concern, and this incident will be examined very carefully."

## Multimillion dollar share rocket is busted by police

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - Police have busted a multimillion dollar racket in stealing, forging and illegal selling of share certificates of 185 companies and banks, news reports said Sunday.

Nine people, including six brokers and two postmen, were arrested in raids during the last two weeks. The Times of India daily quoted Deputy Commissioner of Police Qamar Ahmed as saying.

Police recovered 780,000 share certificates worth more than 100 million rupees (\$ 3.2 million) from offices of the brokers in New Delhi and police teams have been sent to other Indian cities for raids, Ahmed said.

While postmen intercepted mail and passed on share certifi-

cates to the brokerage companies, the brokers changed names of shareholders on the certificates and transfer applications and resold them at about one-fourth their market values, police said.

The fraud was discovered after police began investigating a complaint from a broker of Dabur India, who suspected that applications for the transfer of 36,000 shares worth 17 million rupees (\$ 548,387) had forged signatures.

Shares recovered during the raids included those of Indian blue-chip companies such as Reliance and foreign ones such as Bausch and Lomb, Ahmed said.

# AG probes use of NMI seal on ConCon flyers



Bruce Lloyd

**By Rafael H. Arroyo**  
Variety News Staff

THE ATTORNEY General's Office is looking into allegations of improper campaigning during last Saturday's Constitutional Convention elections involving the use of the CNMI Government's official seal.

This was learned from Public Information Officer Bruce Lloyd who in a telephone interview said government lawyers are trying to determine possible wrongdoing with the use of the government seal on campaign flyers circulated last week.

The use of the seal seems to

make it appear the government was endorsing a slate of candidates in the flyer, an observation Lloyd denies.

"The AG is looking at it. But at this point, the major issue is that they do not know the identity of this organization that have their name on the flyers," said Lloyd.

According to Lloyd, the name of the group is not in the list of on-island non-profit organizations so its identity has to be determined.

"There's a question of the specific use of the Commonwealth seal, in that it would seem that an endorsement of candidates would seem not to be proper," said Lloyd.

Asked what prompted a probe from the AG, Lloyd said people have been asking whether the use of the Commonwealth seal to endorse candidates was proper.

"It's more a question of whether the use of the seal was appropriate. There was a war going back to the first Legislature covering the use of that seal. There were some prohibitions on the use of the seal during that time and so the AG is looking into the circumstances surrounding its use," said Lloyd.

The flyers, which were circulated by the group calling itself "Commonwealth Citizens for a Good Constitution and a Good Government" contained the names of 19 candidates for Saipan it endorses.

The flyers prominently display the emblem of a star on a taga stone and amwarmwar, with the words, "Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, official seal."

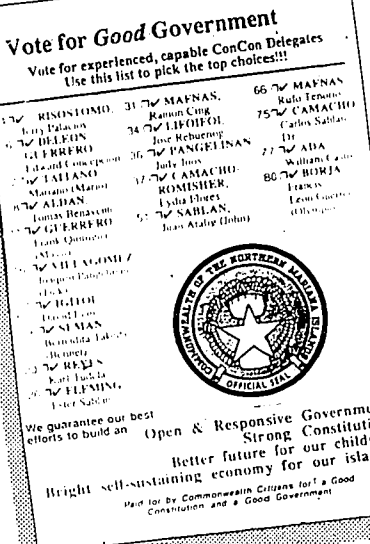
It comes with with an endorsement that goes, "Vote for experienced, capable ConCon Delegates... Use this list to pick the top choices."

When asked for comment yesterday about the flyers, Governor Froilan C. Tenorio said he is aware of the leaflets but doesn't think there's anything wrong with them.

"I saw the flyers but I don't know if that's illegal. I didn't think much of it at the time. But if it's illegal, then that's for the AG to decide," said the governor.

"I haven't asked the AG to look into it, but if it's illegal, the AG has the prerogative to look into it without me asking them," said the governor.

Board of Elections Executive Director Juan M. Diaz was also asked



yesterday whether there was something wrong with the flyers. He said he is not aware of anything in the Election Code against that.

Among the candidates endorsed by the said group were Jerry P. Crisostomo, Edward C. DL. Guerrero, Mario Taitano, Tomas B. Aldan, Frank Q. Guerrero, Joaquin P. Villagomez, David L. Igitol, Bernadita Seman, Karl T. Reyes, Esther S. Fleming, Ramon C. Mafnas, Jose R. Lifiofoi, Judy I. Pangelinan, Lydia Camacho-Romisher, Juan A. Sablan, Rufo T. Mafnas, Carlos S. Camacho, William C. Ada, and Frances DLG. Borja.

The candidates may have had no prior knowledge about the group's endorsement.

## Multiple assault suspect may plead guilty to raps

**By Rafael I. Santos**  
Variety News Staff

A WOMAN facing multiple assault charges may end up agreeing to plead guilty voluntarily.

Lawyer for Nally Rose N. Asanuma and Assistant Attorney General Charles Rothbart hinted during a court proceeding yesterday that a resolution on the case may be achieved without trial.

Asanuma was in Superior Court yesterday for a status conference. She was previously denied free legal services after a judge found she was not an indigent and could retain her own attorney.

It was her first appearance with a lawyer yesterday. Asanuma, who was charged last year by the attorney general's office, was represented by Brian S. Nicolas.

Asanuma is facing one count of assault with a dangerous weapon, two counts of assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

On or about April 11, 1994, the defendant allegedly attacked certain Helga Sambal with a deadly weapon. She also allegedly battered the woman on the same date.

On May 31, 1994, she again attacked Sambal, the government alleged.

Meanwhile, an Asian national is to go on trial soon on assault charges. Jao Hyun Choo will be tried by jury on July 17, 1995. Superior Court documents have indicated.

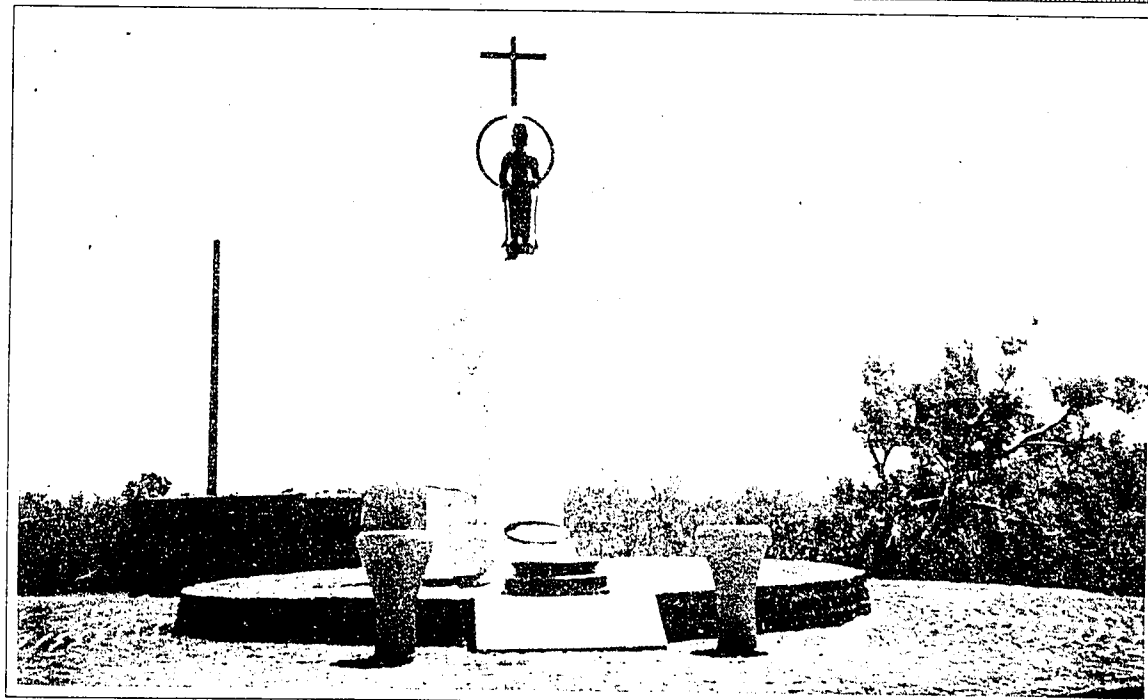
Choo has been charged with aggravated assault and battery and assault and battery.

According to the government, Choo purposely, knowingly and recklessly caused serious bodily injury to He Xiao Ping.

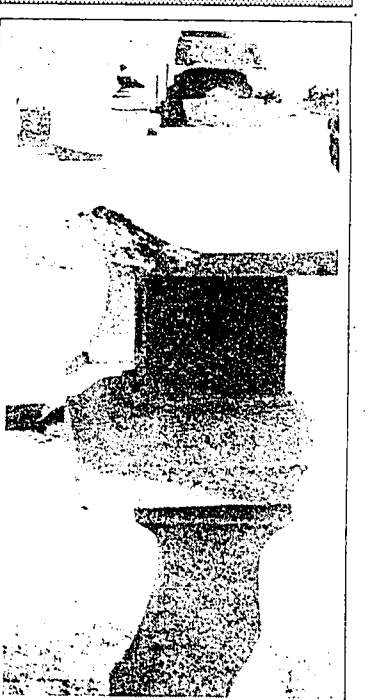
The defendant committed the offense of assault and battery on the same date, Assistant Attorney General Nicole Forelli said in a complaint.



One of the monuments at Banzai Cliff which was cut off by unidentified persons.



The Nanyo Gunto Kyokai at Suicide Cliff where the incense burner was stolen.



A column at Zenkoji Monument was chipped off.

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## ASUNTON MARIANAS

Ginen: John S. DelRosario, JR.

### Kualidat Representasion gi Lehislatura

Gi halom gupot, lisayon matai, bautismo, fandaño yan otro siha na inetnon taotaota matto gi teug i dinisfrutan i kualidat representasion gi lehislatura na esta kontodo i eskribenten miyo guine na pahina gi gaseta mahñañg. Pinilegho na guaho ha' manripapara, lao gaige na lamegai tumuño hafa masusesede ya fatigao i publiko ni na tata na huegon politika. Hafa na taiguine i sentimenton publiko?

Kanaha' ni uno gi membro malago' umekuñog sa' inipos man listo manmanrispuesta gi todo ideumo osino finaisenmo. An unekuñog ya un abalua i fiño' niha, sen tai sustansia ya inafuetsa fumaisen maiso hao kao man mananaita osino man manestutudia i rumepresenta hit guihe na kuetpon guma. I hinason niha i primera dinanche ya todo otro rekomendasion maseha ginen un edukao na sudadano ke uno giya siha, lache!

Megai besis ni hu konsidera kao maliliño kinalaktos kabesan un taotao dispues de man hula' komo setbienten publiko? Kao hafa fattaña i kuetpon lehislatura na sen hasan talie' kualidat na chochu' adelanto para i publiko? Mampos buente maneñgheñg i offisina na nina' fan retatdo manman haso. Sen hasan talie' sustansiao na presentasion gi dibaten prinoponen un lai. Megaiña chispas tola' ke sustansia gi dicho asunto.

Fakto na todo taotao hatutuhon mumaliño kinalaktosña dispues de hadiño i kampon eskuela. Mas ñaño' ramentan kabesaña piot ya ti mananaita leblo yan otro siha estudiao na attikulo yan gaseto ni propio gi kinuntinuan muna 'lagtos titanos. Gi idat bente sinko (25), hatutuhon i titanosta muñaba'. Mas inatisa este yangin taya animumo sumustene propio na exisio pot para un guasa' machetemo.

Señores yan señoras, ti matto-chiña gi para baiho fan kritisisa giya hamyo pot para baiho fan kritisisa sin motibo. Lao i sentimiento gi publiko fatigao yan malaet sa' opan mampos giya siha na memegaiña giya hamyo kapreohon miyo ha' intatiye. Fan dispasio unrato ya tapan hita manmamokat sa' taimano ha' ilegho nigap na mampos ancho i pasun miyo ya esta inna' fanmalalago ham sin nesesda.

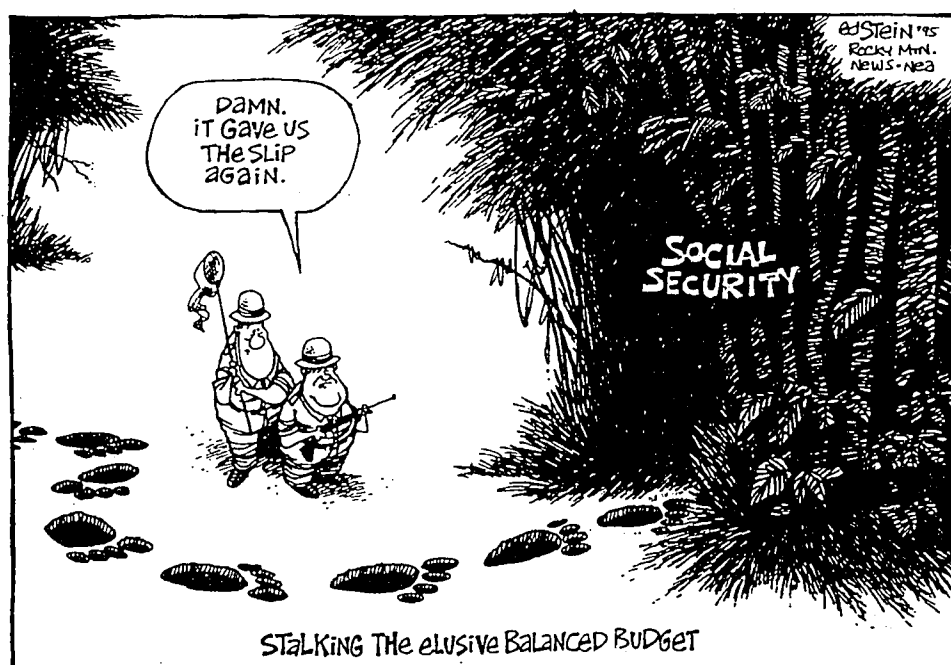
Na fan humidde hamyo ya infanunog unrato ginen i tatikilo na tronun miyo ya tapan hita manohge gi pareho yano na plaset sa' este buente na attura 'nai siña man ahunog hit sin tapan esalao. Dispues, ti haye ham ni publiko. Yangin ti inhago' papa' amano 'nai mangaige ham, bai'n fanmama' guaot tañgantañgan osino piao. Sipudera bai'n fan basnag lao bai'n atotga fumedos i finatinas mame guaot pot sinsero na diniseha para tapan akomprende.

Gi komunidan Marianas, guaha otro patte (bandan bisnis) kana' hapupuno' siha i los pobres umestudiaye koyentura pot para ufan mama' ganansia. Ginen este na ganansia 'nai marikokohe i kontribusion tax ni humahalom gi tresurariion Marianas. Ginen henerat na fondu 'nai inchiñile' este na finkas gi hechuran apropiasion. Hu mensiona este pot para bai' napan manhaso hamyo na tisiña na ti inekuñog rekomendasion niha gi todo prinoponen lai piot gi tax yan sueddoo.

Kabales maestudia ni Congresson America hafa na daño humuhuyong ginen mapasan sueddoo minimum wage. Ti ma fabrika ayo na estudio. Man famosu yan respetao na ekonomista umestudiaye yan sumoda' na dos masusesede gi kada mahatsa i sueddoo: 1). Ensegidas kumahulo' i presion fektos nesetidat familia. 2). Pinino' todo appottunited chochu' sa' i man bibisnis hana' para todo planon man emplea mas taotao pot para usiña kumubre i nuebo na hatsada. Estague' fakto ya chatmiyo fan madadagi.

Kulan bisioloke' gi entalo' membron lehislatura i maletke osino mafatañgaye un mauleg na ginagao sa' ti suena (unpopular) gi botadot. Kulan inmalefaye na i primera besis na man maelihe hamyo pot para inestudiaye hafa mauleg yan propio gi maadelantan linala' publiko. Gigon un meskla este yan mañan para unmaelihe sin unfachuchue' i tronu ni ungiguo pago, esta' giya hamyo sa' ti bachet i man intelihente na botadot gi inabaluan haye dipotsihe chumochogue' checho'ña.

Siempre talie' para mahogue' este na galaide'. Lastima sa' paire na guinaifen mañglo yan pasifiko kulan laña i tase. Hame ni publiko mantestigo na hamyo mismo sumise i layag galaide'. In likukuke' i galaide' miyo ni finatinas mame boten proa. Manmalago ham ha' umakude hamyo, lao uno ha' siña kinatga ni dikiki' na proa—si señor publiko. Bai'n bira ham halom gi tano' ya bai'n fan managañg ausilio. Tinaka' tiempo este na ayudo sa' chago kontra i tano'. An indiño hamyo, siña ha' kahulo' i chubasko ya finondu i galaide' miyo. Mientras tantos, rikonose kao siña i lages i matitig layag sa' intiño ha' na ni hagua osino hilo ti in haso 'nai indiño i puerto.



JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN

### WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

## Pressler shaken by Barney's roar

WASHINGTON- Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., finds himself bruised and battered in his battle with Big Bird and Barney.

As the new chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, Pressler holds legislative sway over some of the most powerful corporate executives in America. But he can't seem to get his arms around the cuddly children's characters who have come to symbolize the opposition to his plan to cut tax-payer support for public broadcasting.

"My message isn't getting through very well," a clearly frustrated Pressler told us. "All they say is I want to cut or kill Barney. That's not true at all."

Pressler apparently underestimated the willingness of the Public Broadcasting Service—and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting—to engage in trench warfare in defense of the \$285 million it receives from the taxpayers each year. Although the subsidy represents a mere 14 percent of public broadcasting's revenue—and .02 percent of the federal budget—the battle of Barney vs. Pressler has become an unwelcome imbroglio for GOP budget cutters.

PBS fans, officials and employees at some of the 1,000 TV and radio stations that depend on the subsidy are not taking Pressler's assault lying down. The Swan Lake set are not intending Pressler's attack to be any swan song for them.

"Pressler is trying to treat a case of a little dandruff here and there with decapitation," one PBS official told our associate Dale Van Atta.

Responding to his critics, Pressler says he's simply been misunderstood. His plan would not kill public broadcasting, he says, simply remove the taxpayer subsidy in favor of new revenue sources.

"They (PBS) have a treasure trove of profit that the taxpayers could get relief by getting a percentage of," Pressler says. Among other things, Pressler wants public broadcasting to recoup some of the profits generated by the marketing and merchandising of PBS characters such as Barney, the popular purple dinosaur. "The point I'm making is there's some creative ways of having to be self-supporting."

With polls showing PBS enjoying 70 percent public support, Pressler has his work cut out for him. Some of his critics believe he is playing fast and loose with the truth as he tries to make his case.

PBS officials predict that Pressler will find some of the stiffest criticism coming from his own backyard—his constituents in South Dakota. Support for public broadcasting is strong there, and federal funding is a vital life-line for the tiny radio and television stations there. As one PBS official put it: "The scorpion's own tail is going to come around and sting him." Not so, says Pressler, who believes South Dakota stations will get more funding under his plan.

While Pressler gripes about the lavish programming budgets of some of the big-market public stations, public broadcasting officials say such complaints are short-sighted. Ninety percent of PBS funds go directly to the 1,000 TV and radio stations, most of which are rural. Big city stations may get less than 4 percent of their budget from the feds, while rural ones may get up to 40 percent from the government. If Pressler succeeds, the first to black out may be the small stations with no other options.

"We've got four of the poorest counties in the nation here, and one of the highest percentages of working mothers in the nation," a television executive in South Dakota told a top PBS official. "They depend on 'Sesame Street' to train day care workers and give those kids in day care a chance to learn to read, give them a little bit of a head start."

The state official maintained that many rural areas in South Dakota, including isolated Indian reservations, depend on PBS for much of their programming. Partly due to affordability, the percentage of homes in South Dakota with cable television is among the lowest in the country.

Pressler's core concept, that PBS can be privatized without losing its identity, also erodes with a glance at Barney's history. Commercial television turned down the purple dino-star because its target was 1 to 5 year-olds, who don't buy much. "Barney and Friends" is now public broadcasting's most popular program.

"A complete cut in the federal contribution," one top PBS official warns, "will make public TV consumer-driven, not education-driven, and it will be just another competing network running reruns of 'I Love Lucy' and selling imitation diamond bracelets."

## Woman found dead in Riviera Hotel room

A FEMALE tourist was discovered dead in a Fina Sisú hotel Saturday morning, the Department of Public Safety said yesterday.

According to DPS spokesperson Sgt. Edward Manalili the victim, a 28-year-old Korean tourist, was found dead Saturday at 7 a.m. inside one of the rooms at Rivera Hotel.

Manalili said initial police investigation showed that the victim went to bed midnight. She was later found not breathing by a tour guide inside a room in the morning.

The victim was transported to the Commonwealth Health Center and was declared dead at 9:30 a.m.

Manalili said an autopsy will be conducted to determine the cause of the woman's death.

In the past two weeks, a Chinese woman and a German male tourist were found dead reportedly due to drowning in separate incidents on the island.

Meanwhile, a man sought police

assistance after he was assaulted by two unidentified men whom he saw smoking marijuana inside a restroom at Christopher Night Club in San Roque Saturday midnight.

The complainant said one of the men threw a can at him. No arrests were made yet.

In Chalan Kiya, an abandoned structure, made up of woods and tins, was razed by a fire of still unknown cause yesterday before dawn.

At Marianas High School, a person was injured after he was reportedly punched and hit with a rock by another individual Friday morning.

The victim sustained a cut in the right palm area and bruises on the left forearm and lower back area.

No other details were given in the report.

DPS received 14 theft/burglary cases over the weekend. There were also 14 other vehicular accidents reported. (FDT)

## Court sentences man in burglary, theft case

By Rafael I. Santos

Variety News Staff

A SAIPAN man accused of taking assorted clothing and money during a break-in two years ago was given a suspended sentence yesterday for voluntarily pleading guilty to burglary.

George A. Aguon was sentenced yesterday morning to five years in prison, but the jail term was suspended by the Superior Court as stipulated in a plea agreement reached between the attorney general's office and the Public Defender's Office.

Presiding Judge Alex Castro handed down the sentence after accepting the terms of the plea agreement. The judge instructed the defendant of his rights in Chamorro language.

After asking a number of questions in Chamorro, the judge found that the change of plea was made voluntarily and without coercion.

Aguon admitted responsibility in a Koblerville burglary which occurred on March 3, 1993. The defendant allegedly broke into the residence of certain Lee Won Sye and took several items including assorted clothing, a luggage and passport.

He also took a television set worth about \$650 and an unspecified amount of money. Charles Rotbart, assistant attorney general told the court during a sentencing yesterday morning.

Aguon entered a plea of guilty to burglary. In return, the government moved for the dismissal of other charges

against the defendant including theft. The defendant would have been given a maximum sentence of 15 years imprisonment and fined \$15,000 if he were convicted in the criminal case, the prosecutor said.

Aguon was given a suspended sentence on certain conditions that he must comply with. Failure to follow the conditions would mean a revocation of the suspended sentence and may result to imprisonment of five years.

The defendant must seek an employment and pay restitution to the victim. Castro also ordered the man to "stay out of trouble" by obeying all laws of the commonwealth and the United States.

The court warned the defendant not to give any judge an opportunity to send him to jail for failure to comply with the requirements.

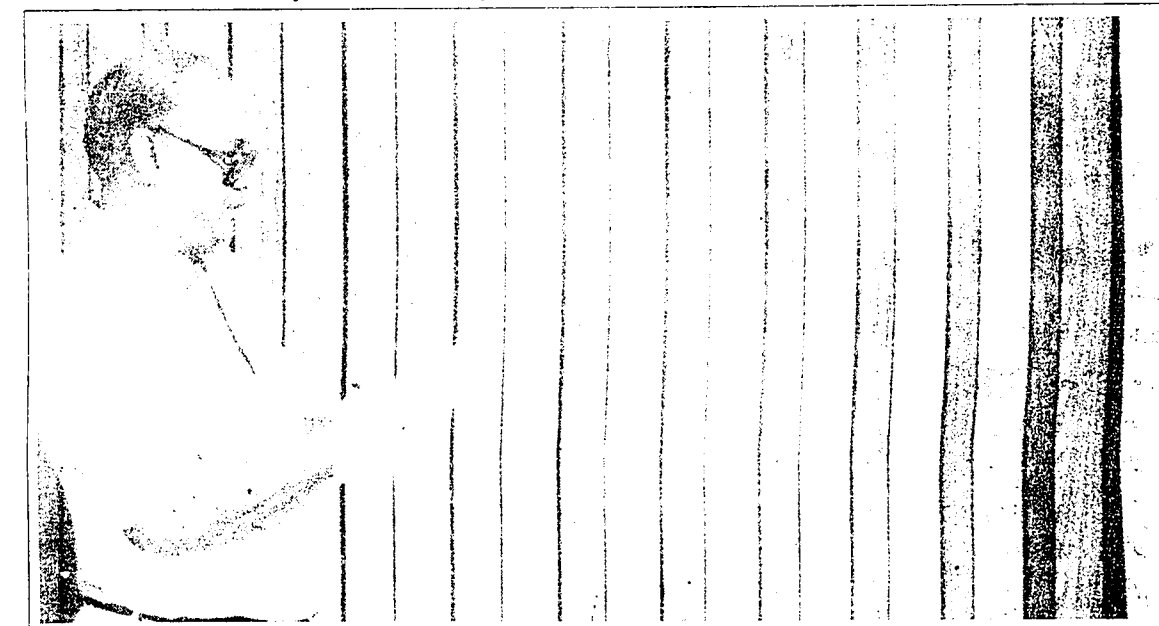


George A. Aguon

## More election photos



The more the better. Woman flashes the posters of five candidates to arriving voters near the entrance of the Koblerville Elementary School Saturday.



BOE Executive Director Juan Diaz writes on his tally sheet the tabulated ballots before 5:00 a.m. Sunday.



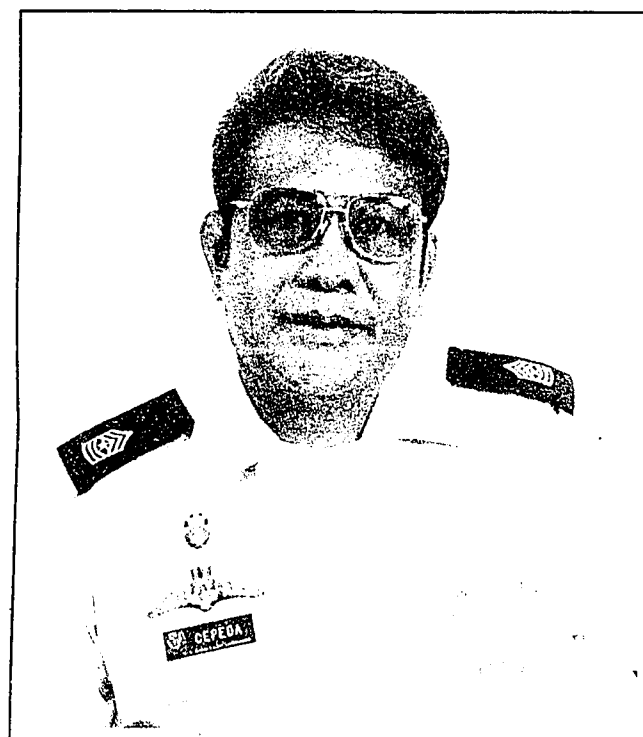
## Message of Appreciation

To the voters of Saipan that exercised their rights to vote on March 4 and especially to those that gave me their overwhelming support and vote of confidence, I thank each and everyone of you. I am Truly grateful for your support.

Si Yuus Maase,

Frances Leon Guerrero Borja (Olympio)





SGM Frank G. Cepeda  
"Green Beret"

## CONGRATULATIONS

to all the Winners of the 3rd Constitutional Convention and the people of CNMI for having successfully selected the delegates to represent us in this historical event.

Fe and I send our heartfelt "Thank You" to all our relatives, friends and the

general public. . . We want you to know our community involvement and services continue. . .

From Sergeant Major  
and  
Mrs. Frank G. Cepeda. . .

Good Luck!!

## FSM gets access to 800 nos. in the US

By Tom Panholzer  
For the Variety

POHNPEI - It has been a long time coming, but at last the Federated States of Micronesia has access to 800 numbers in the United States.

Takuro Akinaga, FSM Telecommunications Corporation general manager, explained that March 1, FSMTC introduced Paid 800 Services to FSM consumers who dial direct to the States.

He said all Paid 800 numbers are billed as Hawaii terminated calls, and extension beyond Hawaii is free of charge.

Akinaga explained that calls placed on week days will be billed at \$2.50 per minute and those placed on Sunday will be billed at \$2.00 per minute.

He added that operator-assisted calls are not available to U.S. domestic 800 numbers.

Local businessman, Charles Marratt, who specializes in restaurant equipment, said having access to 1-800 is a "real boom to me because of my diverse market. I have suppliers with warehouses all over the United States. Since 1-800 numbers tend to be service oriented, I can make one phone call which connects me with people who have all the information I need at that one number instead of making several phone calls. I will save money."

Over all, most businesspersons this reporter spoke with said having the access was most important, though having it completely free would have been nice too.

## Pohnpei Library reelects president

By Tom Panholzer  
For the Variety

POHNPEI - The Friends of the Pohnpei Public Library re-elected Perry Weilbacher president in its annual general meeting in late February.

Other elected officers were William Iriarte, vice president; Merins Hadley Race, treasurer; Lucy Leopold, secretary; Yolanda Elanzo, Fund Raising chairperson; and Phyllis Roegel and Jack Yakama were elected as volunteer coordinators.

Two new employees were added to the library staff: Alice Isaac and Carmina Lihpai.

It was also reported that of the almost 1,100 new volumes received by the library in February, 1,000 were donated by the United States government through the director of Project Handclass, the US Coast Guard Cutter Basswood, and the U.S. embassy in Kolonia Town.

Of those received, 330 books were processed in February.

Further reported was that 1,469 Micronesians and 465 expatriates checked out more than 1,600 volumes during the month.

## Hemsing guests on Saipan Cable Forum

SAIPAN CABLE TV has announced that tonight's guest on Cable Forum will be Howard Hemsing, overall chairperson of the Tri-Centennial Committee. Under the auspices of Student Government Association at the University of Guam and the College of the Northern Mariana.

The main purpose of the Tri-Centennial Committee is to raise awareness that the

Chamorro people are still under Colonial Rule after 300 years.

Most importantly, they hope to rally support and interest to recognize the Chamorro leaders who fought and died resisting the Spaniards 300 years ago on the island of Aguigan.

Cable Forum, starring Jeff Evans runs every Tuesday night at 7:00pm only on Saipan Cable TV Channel 12.

## San Vicente School to hold PTA meeting

THERE will be a very important meeting at the San Vicente Elementary School cafeteria for all parents of Kindergarten students who attend the following centers:

Dandan Center - Morning session  
Dandan Center - Afternoon session

Prudencio Building - Afternoon session

The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm on Tuesday March 7, 1995.

Contact the school at 234-6219 if you have any questions.

## Fired employees refuse to leave their job sites

THE NEWLY formed opposition coalition in Vanuatu's Luganville Municipality has not been able to move 16 former employees from council premises, after abruptly dismissing them last week, RNZI reported Friday.

The dismissals were authorized by acting Town Clerk Shern Rarua who says the redundancies were purely for financial reasons as the council has no money.

But it's reported 16 new officers were immediately recruited to take their places.

The action could be politically motivated as the sacked employees previously worked under the rule of the Union of Moderate Parties. And Rarua is said to be a firm supporter of the opposition National United Party.

The dismissed officers have refused to leave the council premises demanding their severance benefits. PacNews

## Mitchell...

Continued from page 1

However, the lawyer should not have any indirect or direct contact with any of the witnesses in another criminal case in which he is a defendant.

Castro however rejected the government's request to prohibit Mitchell from going to establishments where drinking of alcohol is allowed. The judge said it is hard to delineate a restaurant from a drinking place.

Arrestment followed immediately after the bail hearing. Mitchell pleaded not guilty to the charge of obstructing justice. On February 28, the prominent attorney told the media that he was "absolutely innocent" of the allegations against him.

In yesterday's proceedings, the court denied a motion of the de-

fense for a preliminary hearing. Citing a certain rule, Rayphand told the court that her client is entitled to a preliminary examination as soon as possible.

Gill argued that Mitchell is not deprived of his liberty and so he is not entitled to a preliminary hearing. The chief prosecutor cited a recent ruling of Judge Castro which said a person who is not substantially deprived of freedom is not entitled to preliminary examination.

The court agreed with the government and denied Rayphand's motion.

Meanwhile, a special judge will be appointed to hear the Mitchell case, according to Rayphand.

No reason was given for the decision, but the Superior Court normally asks the Supreme Court chief justice to name a special judge if sees possible conflict of interest.

## Bud ...

Continued from page 20

545. Wendy Lamson led the Sharks with 576-pinfal series.

Med Magtipon of Mark Shark rolled five strikes in a row to win a gift certificate from Shirley's Coffee Shop.

Ice Draft - Chem/Owen, 3-1 Monching Angeles' series of 548 pinfalls led MarPac Ice Draft to a 3-1 victory over fellow newcomer Chem Tach/Owens. Gil Dumas supported Angeles with 532-pinfal series.

RP Entprs - Taxi, 3-1

RP Enterprises beat Taxi, 3-1, and ended its two streak of tie-making games. In the first two weeks, RP Enterprises could only manage tie games with RB Electrical and Fun & Games. Danny Lorzano led RP with a 545-pin series.

RB Electrical-R.V. Enterprises, 3-1

RB Electrical slipped past R.V. Enterprises, 3-1, despite lackluster games. Rosalinda Cal's series with handicap of 613 topped all female bowlers to win the Budweiser Female Bowler of the Week.

## To the People of Saipan and Northern Islands

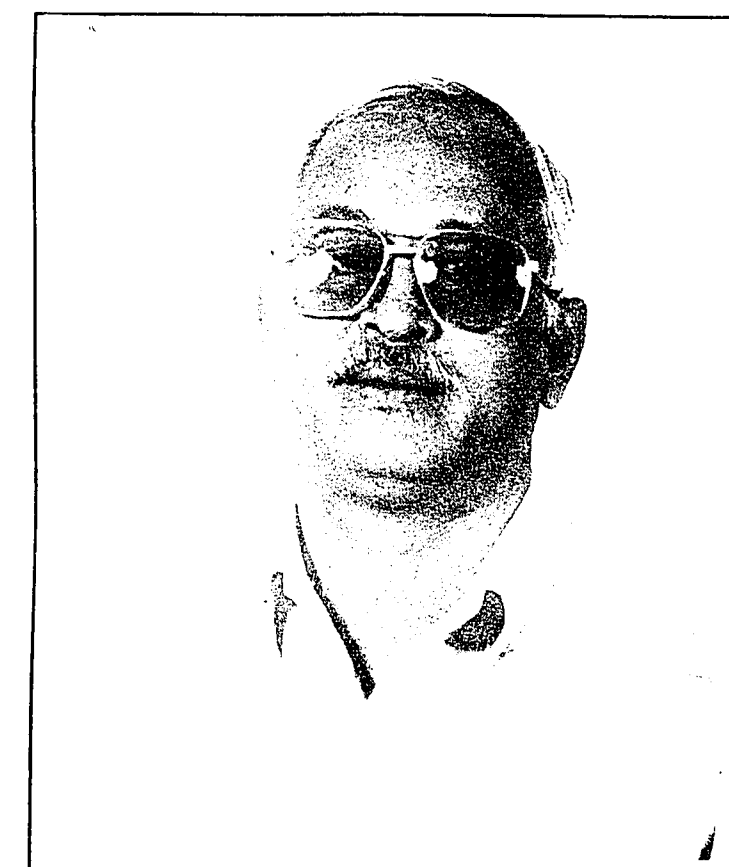


## JOAQUIN (Jack) P. Villagomez # 16

My family and I want to extend our sincere appreciation for your vote of confidence.

GUAHO YAN I FAMILIAN MAME, EN EXTETENDE DANGKULO NA SI YUUS POT UN BOTA YU PARA DELEGADON MIYO GI NIMA TRES NA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Thank You Very Much ... Si Yuus Maase ... Ghilisow ...  
Salamat Po ... Olomwaay ... Kom Kmal Mesulang ....



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
HELP AND SUPPORT  
DURING THE CON-CON ELECTION.

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## Governor...

Continued from page 1

that the initiative process would be the only means gambling could get legalized CNMI-wide.

Under the Constitution, gambling is prohibited in the CNMI unless provided by law or by initiative within any senatorial district. Currently, Tinian is the only district allowed a casino gaming industry being the only one that has ratified a gambling initiative.

According to House Speaker Diogo T. Benavente, he would not have any other way of legalizing casinos but through initiative because of the tremendous impact such ventures could have on the community.

He maintained the decision to have or not to have casinos should be made by the people themselves, through a referendum.

But according to the governor, it is imperative that the Legislature decide on the matter as its members are supposedly tasked to make decisions for their constituents' good and not

just avoid tough decisions.

"If (members of) the Legislature doesn't want to make a tough decision, then they should resign. They can't just ask the people everytime they want to make a tough decision. They should not ask the people to make the tough decisions for them," he said.

"Maybe you may say their decision is to reject casinos. They rejected it once but I will go directly to the people within the next 30 days and on that basis I hope to resubmit a new casino bill," said the chief executive.

Asked about a bill introduced by Senator Eusebio A. Hocog, Tenorio said he has not seen the bill and that he does not know what form it is in.

The subject bill is Senate Bill 9-182 which proposes the establishment of a CNMI Casino Gaming Commission

to oversee and license casino gaming enterprises Commonwealth-wide, the same goal expressed in H.B. 9-368.

The measure is currently being studied by the Senate Committees on Fiscal Affairs and on Resources, Development and Programs for a possible public education and hearing process.

Governor Tenorio in previous news conferences said he wants casino operations in the CNMI as this would boost revenue sufficiency efforts and the overall economy of the CNMI.

He also said taxes may be scaled down once the revenue effects of casinos are felt.

"There's big money in casinos. We should take the opportunity now or we might lose it," said Tenorio in one of those previous press conferences.

Tenorio made mention of a top US

casino gaming firm indicating interest for a major casino hotel development project on Saipan. The firm, Sodak Gaming, Inc. has recently outlined its \$120 million proposal to the House for consideration.

Asked if he has been directly discussing the Sodak plan with its officials, Tenorio said no.

"Sodak is not negotiating with me. I am not talking to them about their casino plan. They're talking to their representative here. I am not dealing with them because I can't deal with them when casinos are not legal yet," said the chief executive.

The governor also previously disclosed of plans by Club Med, a noted "ship-borne" casino company, to relocate to the waters of Saipan if and when casino operations are legalized here.

Farrell also asked the Board to proceed with the recruitment in the mainland considering the expenses incurred by PSS.

The motion was approved.

Jones brought the privatization idea after he recently met and discussed the proposals of two private manpower service company, Paras and Lasco, to recruit 250 qualified American school teachers.

The companies submitted a proposal to reduce the PSS teachers cost throughout 1997 school year and bring the system in compliance with Public Law 7-45.

The law requires PSS by September 30, 1995 to hire teachers who are graduates of college or universities in the U.S. which are accredited by the U.S. or U.S. accrediting associations, or alternatively must be graduates of a college or university and pass a "BESTE" test for English proficiency or its functional equivalent as designated by the BOE.

fied any.

When Jones asked if they have information with regards to how many teachers are retiring, Dela Cruz answered in negative.

The vice chairman pointed out that PSS failed to provide straight figures considering that the number of retirees was not included.

"The best thing we do is go out to the private sector for assistance," he said.

Jones stressed that PSS spent close to \$30,000 for these two recruiters currently looking for the needed teachers in the mainland.

"How many teacher aides do we have. Are we counting that. These are some of the important factors we have to consider," he said.

Board member Don Farrell urged that the idea of asking assistance from a private manpower should be discussed and reviewed further by a committee.

## Ineffective...

Continued from page 1

people (teachers) come. How are our two recruiters doing. Let's make a decision now. Make proposals and review these proposals," he said.

Describing the issue as complicated, PSS legal counsel Sean Frink suggested to have PSS personnel present the initial result of their recruitment.

This prompted Margaret Dela Cruz, PSS deputy commissioner for instruction, to discuss with the Board the result as of March 1, 1995.

Dela Cruz claimed they have identified 26 replacements out of 31 positions for the regular teachers.

For special education, she said, 16 replacements have been identified for 21 positions.

With the related services, they found 16 positions but not identi-

## Thank You For Your Support



Si Yuus Maase  
**PAZ YOUNIS**

# Dino Mendiola Jones

and Family extends  
"Dangkulo Na Si Yuus Maase"  
to all the voters and supporters



## Small business program on its 4th year in CNMI

THE NORTHERN Marianas College (NMC) Business Development Center announces its fourth annual summer Graduate Internship Business Assistance Program and invites local businesses and entrepreneurs to participate.

This year, the Business Development Center plans to recruit 10 graduate business students from the United States to provide technical assistance to local small business owners and government agencies in the CNMI.

The Graduate Internship Business Assistance Programs began in the summer of 1992 as a cooperative venture between Northern Marianas College (NMC) and the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Business Administration (UHM-CBA).

Three MBA students came from Hawaii to Saipan to provide technical assistance to three local businesses. These students also acted as mentors and were teamed with three NMC undergraduate business students to work on projects. All six students received college credit for their work. In addition of air and transportation, the three MBA students were provided with housing and paid a modest stipend to cover day-to-day living expenses.

The pilot project proved to be extremely successful, and all participants, students, and business owners, benefitted greatly, a news release from the NMC Business Development Center said.

Based on the overwhelming success of the program's first year, the project grew dramatically in 1993, with eight students from UHM paired with ten NMC students to provide a wide range of technical assistance to twelve local students from UHM were joined by a graduate student from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas-Austin. Working with ten NMC student interns, the group completed a total of twenty-one projects for local businesses.

Through this program, small businesses receive the kind of free or low-cost professional business consulting services they otherwise could not afford. "The purpose of the program is not only to help local small businesses and government agencies, but also to provide a hands-on, practical educational experience for our students," NMC President Agnes McPhetres said.

The internship program is a collaborative effort between the NMC Business Development Center and Cooperative Education and Business Education Departments with the University of Hawaii at Manoa's College of Business Administration. Last year, funding for the Project was provided by the Northern Marianas College (NMC), the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) and the Office of Territorial and International Affairs (OTIA).

Dr. Patricia Cleveland, Assistant Dean and head of the UHM-CBA Office of Student Academic Services, coordinates the program in Hawaii. Dr. Cleveland called the Graduate Internship Program, "a unique opportunity for all participants. Small and new business owners receive excellent consulting services, graduate interns gain first-hand experience while working in a developing economy, and the NMC students working alongside the graduate interns learn that there are educational opportunities beyond the Associate Degrees they plan to earn.

Jack Peters, Director of the NMC Business Development Center, said, "we strongly urge all small business owners and entrepreneurs who wish to start up a new business, to take advantage of the highly quality assistance they can receive through our program."

Interested parties should contact Eric Plinske, Lori Enfield, or Jack Peters at 235-1551 for information on how to participate in this program. The application deadline is April 17, 1995.



From left to right: Micah Kane, Jennifer Goodhart, James Jones, Ronnie Tai See, Emily De Maria and Brett Meyer. University of Hawaii Master of Business Administration (MBA) students Kane, Goodhart, Jones, Tai See, and Meyer, and University of Texas Master of Public Affairs (MPA) student De Maria receive their award plaques for participation in the 1994 CNMI Graduate Internship Business Assistant Program.

## New industry in A. Samoa creates jobs

NEW industry in American Samoa is expected to create several thousand jobs, RNZI reported Friday.

Governor AP Lutali predicts more than 5,000 jobs will come from seven new industries scheduled to be in full operation by the end of the year.

The forecast is contained in the governor's mid-term review of his administration's performances since elected into office.

The new factories will manufacture sausages, watches and paper cartons. There will also be a brewery and three garment factories. PacNews.

## Thank you for support

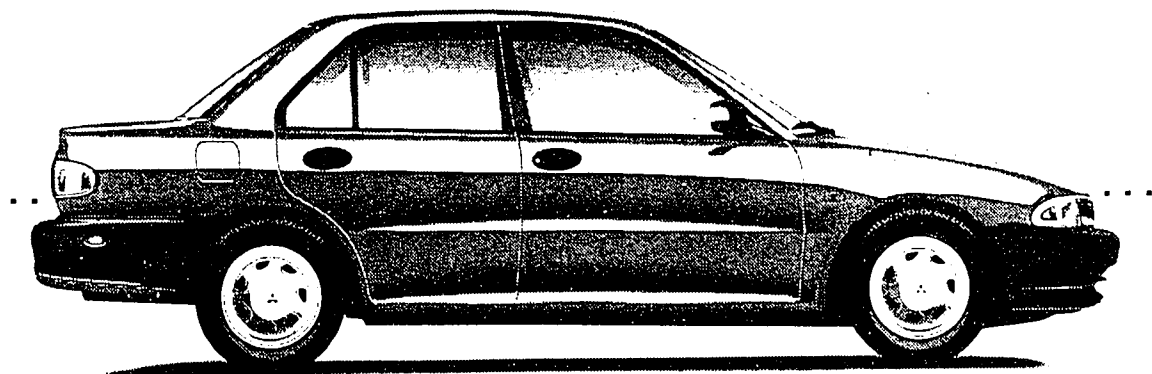


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# Nissan plans to reduce work force

TOKYO (AP) - Nissan Motor Co., Japan's second-largest automaker, plans to continue aggressively cutting production costs and the size of its work force over the next three years, a company official said Monday. A Nissan official said the moves were meant to make up for the effects of a four-year ongoing recession and a drastic appreciation in the value of the yen in recent years, but would not divulge details.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun, a major economic daily, quoted Nissan officials as saying 7,000 jobs would

be eliminated during the three fiscal years beginning April 1, in an effort to cut costs by 10 percent, or 360 billion yen (\$3.87 billion).

Nissan will achieve the cutbacks through attrition, hiring fewer new college graduates, paying less for parts and reducing the number of chassis models under production, the report said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the ratio of Nissan's labor costs to sales currently stands at 10 percent, while the average ratio among Japan's 11 automakers is

around 8 percent.

Recent increases in the value of the yen against major world currencies have raised domestic labor costs, making its autos less cost competitive on foreign markets.

To counter declines in domestic sales due to the economic

slump, Nissan plans to increase its domestic sales staff by 3,000 in three years to 30,000, the official said.

The company spokesman said the company's previous plan to bring down the size of its work force to 48,000 by early 1996

from 53,000 in 1993 still stands valid. As of this month, the company has 49,000 workers.

Nissan has said it expects to post 70 billion yen (\$753 million) in operating losses at the March 31 end of fiscal 1994, the third consecutive yearly loss.

## Sri Lankan rebels offer to drop their demand for independence

By DEXTER CRUEZ

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) - In a bid to break the deadlock in stalled peace talks, Tamil rebels have once again offered to drop their demand for a separate Tamil nation.

The statement by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the main guerrilla group, came Sunday as President Chandrika Kumaratunga made her first visit to the war-torn region and urged the Tamil people to pressure the rebels to end their 11-year war.

"The political aim and ideal of the Liberation Tigers is no doubt Tamil Eelam (homeland), but if alternate

proposals that give the Tamils security and self-respect are put forward, we are ready to consider them," the rebel statement said.

Two months ago, reporters who visited the guerrilla stronghold of Jaffna two months ago said a rebel leader also offered to drop the demand for an independent nation if government proposals satisfied Tamil political aspirations for greater autonomy.

Mrs. Kumaratunga, who won elections last year by promising peace, began the rebel negotiations in October and reached a cease-fire that is holding.

But bickering over reopening land

routes to the blockaded northern province that the rebels control has halted peace talks.

Both sides have blamed the other for not being serious and sincere. No date for the next round of talks has been set.

Sunday's statement, released to newspapers in Jaffna, urged Mrs. Kumaratunga to end the war of attrition and outline the political package to end the ethnic war.

More than 34,000 people have died in the insurrection. The Tamil minority believes it is widely discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese, who control the government and military.

## French firm sells Texasgulf

PARIS (AP) - Elf Aquitaine SA and The Williams Companies Inc. said Monday they would sell Texasgulf Inc. to Canada's Potash Corp. for \$1.8 billion.

Elf owns 85 percent of the U.S.-based phosphate company while Williams owns 15 percent.

The companies had said in January they planned to sell their stakes in Texasgulf by floating its shares on the stock market.

Elf acquired 100 percent of Texasgulf in 1981 for 13 billion francs, or \$1.8 billion at current exchange rates. It later sold 15 percent to Williams.

Elf Chairman Philippe Jaffre in January said the French oil company would likely take a loss on the sale of its Texasgulf holding because of the depreciation of the dollar since 1981.

Texasgulf, based in Raleigh,

N.C., is one of the world's largest producers of phosphate rock and phosphate products, and sells solid and liquid fertilizers.

Elf, France's largest company, is an integrated international oil company with chemical, pharmaceuticals and beauty-products interests.

Elf was privatized in early 1994, in the largest privatization ever carried out by the French government.

## ADB raises alarm on deforestation in Asia

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Logging and slash-and-burn farming have destroyed some 45 million hectares (111.15 million acres) of forest in the Asia-Pacific region in just one decade, the Asian Development Bank said Monday.

The Manila-based bank said it has approved a policy that would promote protection of forest areas, production of renewable resources and participation of local communities and organizations in managing forests.

The region, which contains a quarter of the world's tropical forests and half the earth's plant and animal species, is threatened by rural poverty, population growth and certain farming practices, the bank said.

It said firewood collection and slash-and-burn agriculture "are as big, if not bigger, threats to Asia's tropical forests as logging."

In slash-and-burn farming, landless migrant peasants cut trees and other vegetation to clear slopes for raising rice, corn and other crops. Once the soil loses its nutrients, they move to other areas, leaving only barren patches on mountain sides that are prone to erosion.

To deal with firewood cutting, the bank said, "swift and effective action is needed to meet the rising demand for energy from poor rural households." It sug-

gested promoting wood substitutes and alternative sources of fuel such as biogas, kerosene and solar energy.

Between 1980 and 1990, the region's area covered by forests has been reduced by a yearly average of 4.5 million hectares (11.12 million acres), or about 9 percent of the total.

In addition, fires destroy more than 200,000 hectares (494,000 acres) of forests annually.

That indicated deforestation was twice as fast as the annual replanting rate of 2.1 million hectares (5.19 million acres), the bank said.

Thailand's annual deforestation rate during the period was 515,300 hectares (1.27 million acres). That was followed by Burma, 400,500 hectares (989,235 acres); Malaysia, 396,000 hectares (978,120 acres); India, 339,100 hectares (837,577 acres); the Philippines, 316,100 hectares (780,767 acres); and China, 304,700 hectares (752,609 acres).

The bank said in a statement that for forest-rich countries, the policy should be to protect existing forests and set aside areas for logging, watersheds, animal and plant habitats, and forest-dwelling communities.

Forest-poor countries should create tree plantations for domestic wood consumption and improve forest management, it said.

## Burmese gov't closes a border with Thailand

MAESOT, Thailand (AP) - Burma has closed a key border crossing with Thailand and Thai troops have stepped up patrols along the tense frontier, Thai military officers said Monday.

Earlier, Thailand warned it would retaliate with force if Burmese troops continued their incursions into Thai territory in their campaign against Karen rebels.

Col. Adirek Yamngamreab, the regional commander, said Thai businessmen and visitors seeking to cross into Burma from the frontier town of Mae Sot have been turned back since Saturday.

The colonel quoted Burmese troops assaying the border closure was aimed at ensuring security for Burmese authorities visiting the frontier area.

But Thai officials in Mae Sot believe it was a reaction to Thai protests and threats to retaliate.

Last Friday, the Thai Foreign Ministry sent a protest to Burma over an earlier incursion in Thailand in which Burmese troops kidnapped a Karen lawyer and wounded two people.

Thailand has stepped up around-the-clock patrols by army troops, Border Patrol Police and local volunteers.

The river border crossing is between Mae Sot, 375 kilometers (230 miles) northwest of Bangkok, and the Burmese town of Myawadee. In recent years, trade has increased rapidly across the frontier here.

Although Thailand and Burma maintain friendly relations, ties have been strained since late last year when Burma's ruling junta launched a major offensive against ethnic Karen rebels based along the border.

Thousands of refugees have fled into Thailand since the fighting erupted and Karen insurgents lost major bases.

The Karen are among a welter of ethnic minorities who had fought the central government for decades, seeking greater autonomy. Almost all have made their peace with Rangoon, and while the Karen vow to fight on, their recent defeats have badly hurt their cause.

## Ruling party activist shot dead in Dhaka

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) - In the latest instance of worsening political violence, an activist of the governing Bangladesh Nationalist Party was shot and killed, police said Monday.

The killing of Gautam Das, 25, on Saturday was the third assassination of political activists in the past one week.

Political violence has increased in Bangladesh in the last one year after a dispute between Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and the opposition led to the opposition legislators boycotting Parliament and subsequently resigning.

The opposition accuses Mrs. Zia's government of corruption and incompetence.

## MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO CIRCULATED AND TO THOSE WHO SIGNED MY PETITION TO BE A CANDIDATE TO THE THIRD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. EQUALLY, I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO ME BY MY FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND TO THOSE WHO GAVE ME THEIR VOTE OF CONFIDENCE ON MARCH 04, 1995



## APRESIASION

HU EXTETENDE UN DANGKULO NA APRESIASION PARA TODU I FAMILIA KU, MAN ATUNGO HO YAN TODUS HAMYU NI MUNAI YU NI BOTUN KONDIANSI PARA I MINA TRES NA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION KUMU PARA BAI HU REPRESENTA HAMYU.

/s/ Tomas Benavente Aldan

SI YUUS MAASE • GHILISOW • THANK YOU • SALAMAT PO

Ghilison

On behalf of our families, and all the Con Con candidates, dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase pot todo i minapot miyu, yan sapottasion miyu ni in nai ham.

In saludu hamyo todos, Tiron.

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Jose Lairopi Iribus  
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MEMBER FDIC

# US has support to keep Iraq sanction

By LOUIS MEIXLER  
UNITED NATIONS (AP) - Satellite pictures of a rebuilt chemical weapons plant and lavish palaces have helped the United States clinch support to maintain U.N. sanctions against Iraq, a U.S. official said Sunday.

After lobbying the leaders of nine Security Council members for a week, U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright said she has commitments from enough countries to defeat any proposed resolution to ease the economic sanctions.

The United States has the backing "to sustain sanctions on Iraq until they comply with all the relevant Security Council resolutions," said Albright's spokesman, James P. Rubin.

The Security Council plans to review the sanctions in a meeting March 13.

Russia and France, Iraq's leading trading partners before the Gulf War, favor easing sanctions that bar Iraq

from exporting oil as soon as it fully cooperates with U.N. weapons monitors. A crucial report on Iraqi compliance is expected in mid-April.

The United States says Baghdad must also respect human rights, return prisoners from its 1990 invasion of Kuwait and show it can be trusted.

Resolutions require nine votes to pass in the 15-member council, and Albright's trip to Britain, Italy, Oman, Honduras and the Czech Republic was designed to build support to block any such move. Albright also spoke with the leaders of Germany, Argentina, Botswana and Rwanda.

Rubin said the nine council members expressed concern about Iraq's capability to rebuild weapons, its spending on lavish palaces and its moves to incorporate Kuwaiti equipment into the Iraqi army.

Last week, the White House threatened to veto any Security Council move to lift or ease the sanctions.

Satellite photographs Albright pre-

sented to the council members showed Iraq has rebuilt at least one chemical weapons plant and was beefing up its armed forces, a U.S. official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said the chemical weapons plant could become operational if U.N. weapons inspectors left the country.

Iraq also has incorporated Ku-

waiti missiles and hundreds of Kuwaiti armored personnel carriers into its elite al-Nida Republican Guard unit, the official said.

The official said Iraq has spent \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion to rebuild 17 palaces or retreats for Iraqi leaders and has 48 other such retreats under construction.

Iraq has urged council members to

lift the sanctions, saying its people are suffering under the embargo. But Rubin said the palaces show the Iraqi ruling class "can't claim poverty ... when it comes to feeding and clothing their people." Last week, the chief U.N. weapons inspector, Rolf Ekeus, told the council that Iraq has not accounted for 22 tons of material that could be used to cultivate bacteria for germ warfare.

## China pours cash into military despite growing budget deficit

By ELAINE KURTENBACH  
BEIJING (AP) - Despite a rising national deficit, China's defense spending is set to increase by more than 21 percent in 1995 under a budget proposed by the government Monday.

Finance Minister Liu Zhongli, speaking on the second day of the annual meeting of China's legislature, proposed increasing total state spending by 9.3 percent to 635.92 billion yuan (dls 75.7 billion) this year.

But the plan would raise spending on national defense 21.25 percent to 63.1 billion yuan (dls 7.51 billion), marking the sixth straight annual increase, despite the end of the Cold War.

In 1994, defense spending rose by 22.45 percent to 52.04 billion yuan (dls 6.19 billion) - raising fears among China's neighbors that the defense buildup could be part of Beijing's effort to reinforce territorial claims in the South China Sea.

Liu did not explain the increase in defense. But Premier Li Peng said Sunday that the People's Liberation Army should "make further efforts to become a revolutionary, modern and regular army with increased combat effectiveness and defense capabilities."

Analysts say the national defense budget reflects only a por-

tion of China's total military spending. Additional money is thought to come from other central and local government budgets, exports of weapons and domestic sales of civilian products made in military-run factories.

The 1995 draft budget also includes an increase in spending on agriculture, a sector which has lagged behind others in China's booming economy.

Proposed spending on agriculture totals 44.7 billion yuan (dls 5.32 billion), an increase of 13.7 percent over 1994's actual spending of 37.8 billion yuan (dls 4.5 billion). Combined with agricultural spending in other budget categories, total spending on the farm sector amounts to 69.35 billion yuan (dls 8.26 billion), Liu said.

Officials say lagging growth in agricultural production was a key contributor to China's inflation rate of 24.4 percent last year. The national budget also called on local authorities to "try every possible financial means to increase investment" in farm productivity.

Total state revenues are expected to rise 9.9 percent to 569.24 billion yuan (dls 67.77 billion), leaving a national deficit of 66.68 billion yuan (dls 7.93 billion), just slightly smaller than the 66.9 billion yuan deficit expected in 1994.

Added to 86.02 billion yuan (dls 10.24 billion) due to ser-

vice domestic and foreign debts and 1.05 billion yuan (dls 12.45 billion) for foreign loans for key construction projects, total debts in 1995 amount to 153.74 billion yuan (dls 18.30 billion). With expenditures rising 2.4 percentage points faster than revenues, the deficit has continued to rise, Liu noted. He also pointed to widespread waste in government spending.

"All departments should show the spirit of plain living and hard struggle and of building up the country through hard work and thrift," he said.

## Malaysia detained 50,000 alien job seekers last year

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - The government detained about 50,000 foreigners last year, mainly for sneaking into Malaysia, where an economic boom has caused a labor shortage.

Immigration Department spokesman Mohamad Aris Chonin said the detentions were based on tip-offs from the public and raids on plantations, construction projects, factories and other job sites.

Among the 49,707 people detained, 28,378 were Indonesians, 10,993 were from Bangladesh, 3,319 from Burma, 2,701 from the Philippines and the rest were Thais and others, Aris said in an interview published in the New Straits Times Monday.

A total of 14,742 of them were deported, including 11,029 Indonesians, 1,180 Filipinos, 880 Burmese, 813 Thais and 341 Bangladeshis.

The others were allowed to find work.

Aris said since July 1, 1992, when the crackdown started, 105,722 foreigners were detained. Of these, 50,992 were recruited for employment and 47,910 were deported.

He did not say what happened to the others, but some have been prosecuted and jailed.

Government policy allows employers to hire some illegal immigrants because of the labor shortage in plantation, construction and factory jobs shunned by Malaysians.

Economic growth of more than eight percent in each of the last six years caused the shortage. Malaysia has a population of 19.9 million and a work force of eight million.

There are about one million foreigners employed legally and an estimated 300,000 illegals.

# Ramos arrives in Netherlands

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) - Accompanied by a team of top businessmen, Philippine President Fidel Ramos landed here Monday on the first leg of a European tour to drum up foreign investment.

Not on Ramos' official agenda was a meeting with the communist rebels who run an office of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) in the central Dutch city of Utrecht.

The NDFP is an umbrella orga-

nization for 14 communist groups in the Philippines who are still fighting one of the world's oldest insurrections.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a diplomat waiting to meet Ramos at Schiphol Airport said it was "highly unlikely" that Ramos would meet with the communists "because they are already in (peace) negotiations."

Last month, government and communist negotiators reached what Ramos described as a "land-

mark agreement" on guaranteeing immunity from prosecution and safety to NDFP negotiators at any future talks in the Philippines.

A spokesman at the NDFP office declined comment on the visit.

The negotiating panels also agreed to start formal peace talks on June 1, this year in the Belgian capital Brussels.

Ramos is keen to forge peace with rebel groups like the NDFP,

Muslim insurgents and renegade soldiers as a way of spurring economic recovery in the Philippines.

Representatives of the Netherlands-Philippines Action Group planned to protest Ramos' presence.

## Message of Appreciation



Message:

I Candy Babauta Taman my wife and family extends our sincere appreciation to all the Citizens of the CNMI for their support & hardwork. I pray that we become more intelligent in our decision to vote based on our problem, as the year progresses.

Thank-you, Si Yuus Maase, Ghiliso

Sincerely,  
CANDY TAMAN

## Rabin worried over probe of party officials in scam

JERUSALEM (AP) - Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed concern Sunday over a police probe of fellow Labor party colleagues suspected of embezzling hundreds of thousands of dollars in Histadrut labor union funds.

Added to a popularity setback over a stalemate in Middle East peace talks, the scandal could undermine Rabin's chances of re-election in national polls slated for next year.

Israeli media reported there was sus-

picion of more than a million shekels (about \$ 300,000) being spent illegally, about half of it by Labor candidates who ran in Histadrut elections last year.

Reports added that police questioned a senior union official linked to the party for a fifth time on Sunday regarding some of the missing funds.

Israel television said that the party owed the union federation some 1.4 million shekels (about \$ 500,000 mil-

lion) from the elections.

"I am worried by the very fact there is a police probe of the Histadrut," Rabin said on television. "I hope that there turns out to be no reason for such suspicions and that we will get by this."

Asked whether the scandal could engulf his Cabinet or party, Rabin replied: "I hope very much not because we are speaking only about some party figures not the party itself and certainly not the Cabinet."

## North Korean leader makes rare public appearance anew

TOKYO (AP) - North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, who rarely appears in public, received a storm of applause when he attended a mass gymnastics performance Sunday, the North's official news agency said.

Kim "warmly acknowledged" the cheers from army officers and men in the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, said the Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo.

Kim, successor of his father, Kim Il Sung, who died last July, is believed to be in full control of the communist state, but has not assumed the formal titles of president and leader of the ruling Workers Party.

His infrequent public appearances have led to speculation that the 53-year-old leader is ill, dealing with internal feuds or facing opposition from China, the

North's main ally.

But Naewoo Press, an official South Korean agency that watches the North, has quoted pamphlets being circulated in the North as saying Kim Jong Il was holding back from taking formal leadership titles because of Korean mourning traditions.

Sunday's report identified him by his title, granted before his father's death, of supreme commander of the army and said he attended the performance together with other military men.

It said the gymnastics display "powerfully demonstrated the unshakable faith and will" of the North Koreans in carrying out the cause of socialism.

Most of Kim's seven reported public appearances this year have been related to the powerful military, whose influence is reported on the rise.

## Manglona ...

Continued from page 1

The island of Rota, with its two election precincts, has a total of 1,145 registered voters.

Last Sunday, election results from Saipan indicate nineteen winning Concon candidates namely, Esther Fleming, Bennet Seman, Lillian Tenorio, John DLR. Gonzales, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Frances Borja, Joaquin P. Villagomez, Mariano Taitano, Herman T. Guerrero, Juan S. Tenorio, Jose R. Lifoloi, Donald Mendiola, Tomas B. Aldan, Carlos S. Camacho, Helen Taro-Atalig, Felix Nogis, David Igitol, Vicente Aldan, and Marylou A. Sirok.

Over on Tinian, the winners apparent were Henry U. Hofschneider, James M. Mendiola, David Q. Maratita, and Joey P. San Nicolas.

According to Diaz, the numbers for Rota, Saipan and Tinian may change

once the Board gets to receive absentee ballots numbering about 200 on March 9th, the deadline set by the BOE.

"Since Sunday, we have been double checking on our numbers and will just wait for the absentee ballots. After that, we will be calling in a team of tabulators to count the ballots after which we will then be pushing for certification of winners about a day after," said Diaz.

The Rota returns were obtained by the Board only Sunday after an apparent communication breakdown between the Board's Saipan and Rota offices.

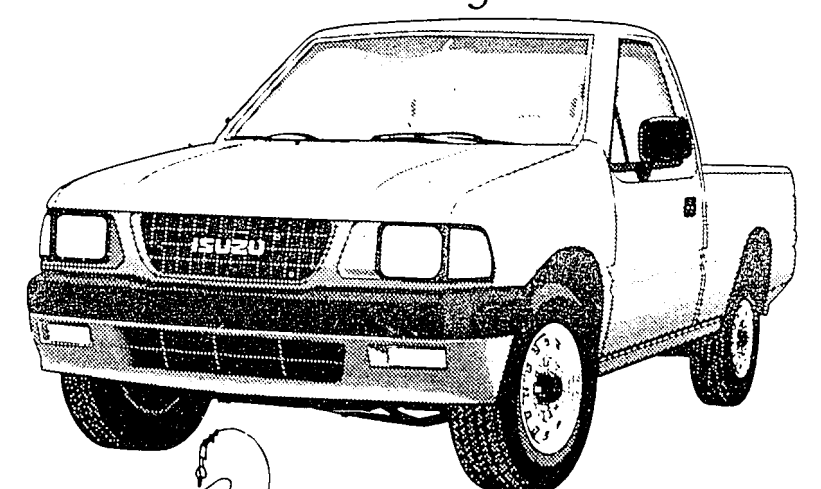
The results were supposed to have been transmitted Saturday from Rota to the Multipurpose Center in Susupe where the elections tabulation was taking place but the Rota office apparently was not able to fax the information.

"The Rota Board apparently didn't know the fax number to the Multipurpose Center," reasons Diaz as to the delay in getting the Rota results.

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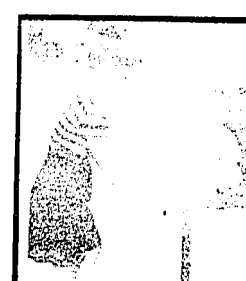
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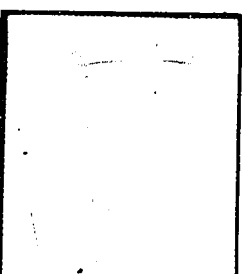
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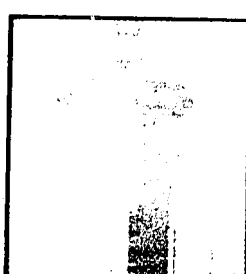
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## Message of Appreciation

We the family of the late **Honorable Jose R. Cruz** wishes to extend our warmest Dangkulu na Si Yuus Maase to those who participate in both spiritual and morale support.

**Special Thanks to**  
**Bishop Thomas Camacho,**  
**Gov. Office, Former Gov. Larry Guerrero,**  
**Senate Pres., Juan Demapan,**  
**Speaker Diego Benavente,**  
**Ambassador Williams**  
**Mayors, Saipan, Tinian, Rota**  
**Chief Justice Jose Dela Cruz,**  
**Ramon Villagomez,**  
**Saipan Cable T.V.**

Again Si Yuus Maase  
**Zena Cruz**  
 and Family

## NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

**Antonio P. Agulto and Josephine B. Agulto**, on or about **April 5, 1983**, gave and delivered to the Mariana Islands Housing Authority (MIHA), now known as the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) acting on behalf of the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), now known as the Rural Economic and Community Development Services (RECDs), United States of America, a Deed of Trust, upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on **April 5, 1984**, under **Document 16869** to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the said Trustor to the MIHA, now known as NMHC, acting on behalf of the RECDs, United States of America.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

**LOT NO. 011 H 11, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 H 00, DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1971, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 821 SQUARE METERS.**

The trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation issued its Notice of Default **April 29, 1994**.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas housing Corporation will, on **March 31, 1995**, at 10:00 a.m. at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (formerly MIHA), Garapan P.O. Box 514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **\$57,000.00**, total amount due to RECDs loan and NMHC's expenses.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check and shall be paid within 72 hours from the time of sale.

The Northern Mariana Housing Corporation reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this **27th**, day of **February, 1995**

/S/ By: **Corporate Director**  
 Northern Marianas housing Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

On this **1st day of March, 1995**, before me, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, personally appeared **David K. Benavente**, duly authorized representative for the Northern Mariana Housing Corporation, Known to me as the person show name is subscribed to the foregoing NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST and acknowledged tome that he executed the same on behalf of the Northern Marianas housing Corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and affixed official seal the day and year first written above

/S/ **Benjamin B. Seman**  
 Commonwealth of the Northern mariana Islands  
 My Commission expires on the **26 day December, 1996**

## Demand for justice is growing in Haiti

By **MICHELLE FAUL**  
**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti** (AP) - Weeds grow through the cracks in the concrete floor where blood flowed in a massacre of worshipers that helped preacher Jean-Bertrand Aristide oust a dictatorship.

Nearly seven years later, with Aristide ensconced in the presidential palace, the fiery rhetoric comes from another young preacher. But the message is the same.

"Where is the justice the Americans promised?" lay preacher Paul Raymond demanded in a sermon Sunday. "Why is the man who masterminded the massacre in this very church not in jail?"

"Amen! Amen!" about 60 people yelled in agreement.

Most stood around a formica table with white crocheted cloth that served as an altar for the roofless, burned-out church of St. Jean Bosco.

"Our church will remain in ruins, as a symbol, until those who committed this atrocity are punished. They must be judged. They must be condemned. They must pay for their sins," Hilairnus Delice said.

He was here when the thugs attacked on Sept. 11, 1988, as Aristide urged people to resist the dictatorship of Gen. Henri Namphy and denounced the U.S. government for supporting his bloody rule. At least 12 people were killed and 70 wounded.

"I remember the screams, seeing people suffering, the blood," said Jean-Marie Carmel, then eight years old.

Many recognized some of the killers, who attacked with machetes, pig stickers, pistols and clubs. They were City Hall workers employed by Mayor Franck Romain, a former police chief under the Duvalier family dictatorship; which terrorized Haitians for 29 years until Namphy took over under a deal brokered by the United States.

Aristide called for Romain to be tried. In December 1990, Aristide won elections by a landslide only to be ousted in a bloody military coup 10 months later.

Now, many Haitians echo Raymond's sentiments - that another U.S. deal, the one that restored Aristide to power in October, "is continuing to enslave us and enchain justice while murderers walk free."

Raymond laughed bitterly as he told Sunday's congregation that U.S. commanders had warned

Romain last month to stop plotting against Aristide or face arrest.

"Why are they threatening? Why haven't they arrested him already?" he yelled. "Do we have to wait for another massacre?"

The government issued a warrant for Romain's arrest last week after he reportedly fled to the neighboring Dominican Republic. The warrant referred only to the plot, not the St. Jean Bosco massacre.

Up to 4,000 people were killed in the three years Aristide was in exile. Thousands more were disfigured, wounded or forced into exile. Few are ready to bear witness.

Aristide has been preaching "reconciliation with justice" since he returned.

Most courts, though, remain controlled by the appointees of previous dictatorships. American legal experts arrived last month to help train new judges and prosecutors.

In November, Aristide's government appointed a Truth and Justice Commission to hear victims' complaints. But it apparently has done nothing, and there are strong calls for speedier justice.

"So many authors of the crimes are at liberty, people see them walking freely and know they are still armed, so people fear retribution," said Necker Dessables of the Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission.

The angst displays itself in varied ways. Demands are scrawled in blood-red graffiti across walls of Port-au-Prince: "No Reconciliation Without Justice," warns one at the Finance Ministry. Radio music programs constantly play songs calling for justice.

Other victims broadcast on a radio program organized by a Catholic priest. People cry, recount the horrors, then give the names and addresses of alleged perpetrators.

That is a dangerous game in Haiti, where the only justice known to ordinary people has been the vengeance they mete out themselves, often with the same ferocity as their attackers.

For now, many fear, Aristide may not be able to check the growing desire for quick action.

"Justice is the only way to consolidate democracy," Dessables said. "If we don't have justice, I think it's an illusion to talk of reconciliation, because it will just postpone the day of reckoning."

## Tropical storm batters aboriginal community

**BRISBANE, Australia** (AP) - A tropical storm battered a tiny aboriginal island community off Australia's remote tropical northeast Monday.

Police said houses were damaged and trees uprooted on Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria when Cyclone Warren unleashed 150

kilometer per hour (93 mph) winds. No injuries were reported.

A small airplane was blown over at a nearby airstrip. Other trees were stripped of leaves. Meteorologists said the cyclone had moved over the mainland and was weakening into a rain depression.

# China suffers blow in HK polls

By **JOHN LEICESTER**  
**HONG KONG** (AP) - China's efforts to seat sympathetic politicians suffered a blow in Hong Kong's elections when a former missionary it backed was unseated by a fierce critic of Beijing.

Szeto Wah's convincing win over Englishwoman Elsie Tu in municipal elections Sunday showed that Hong Kong's democrats are holding their ground against pro-China politicians, who are growing stronger as China's takeover of Hong Kong approaches in 1997.

Szeto, 64, helped found the Democratic Party, the largest pro-democracy faction, and he often criticizes China's human rights record, making him a "subversive" in Beijing's books.

Mrs. Tu, in contrast, opposed recent calls for greater democracy and was rewarded with an invite from Beijing to act as an advisor in China's preparations for 1997.

Szeto beat Mrs. Tu, 81, by 2,397 votes in the working-class area of Kwun Tong. The battle was closely

watched because both candidates are immensely popular and their views toward China so different.

"It's the battle of the century," one voter told Hong Kong television.

With about two-thirds of results declared early Monday, Szeto's Democrats had 16 seats and 10 defeats. Their main pro-China rival, the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, had four wins and two losses.

Some Democrats lost to pro-China politicians not aligned with the DAB. Other seats went to independents and smaller pro-democracy parties.

The Democrats say stronger democratic institutions will ensure local control after China takes over. But the pro-Beijing camp says that will only anger China's Communists and encourage them to break their promise of a "high degree" of autonomy for Hong Kong after 1997.

Police reported two brawls between supporters of the two rival camps. Four people were slightly

injured. Police detained three men briefly for questioning.

But otherwise, the sun shined and the mood was jovial.

Party campaigners offered greetings and handshakes to families, shoppers and old men in Chinese slippers and high-colored jackets who lined up to vote.

Under rules devised by Gov. Chris Patten against China's wishes, all municipal councilors were for the first time elected Sunday. Previously, some were appointed.

China responded to Patten's reforms with vows to disband Hong Kong's elected bodies in 1997. But Beijing still backed pro-China candidates Sunday, apparently to show that it has support in the colony. Hong Kong's next polls, for the legislature in September, will be the last under British rule.

Hong Kong's enthusiasm for democratic politics was evident from the record 128 candidates who contested 52 seats. Another seven candidates won uncontested.

Voter turnout was 25.8 percent, the highest ever for a municipal election.

After touring an election center, Patten said the poll was part of a "steady, unthreatening maturing" Hong Kong that made him question why Britain and China argued.

"You think to yourself, 'What's the fuss been all about? What's the big deal?'"

Ostensibly, the polls were about choosing the people who manage parks, stadiums and public toilets. But with 1997 looming, these local issues became entwined in the wider political argument about Hong Kong's relations with China.

Alan Cheng, a banker, said he voted for the Democrats' Steve Chan because "the British are leaving us with a self-governing system. If we don't support it, then where is our future?"

Chan, 28, beat the DAB's Ip Kwok Him in Western, a working-class neighborhood near the spot where British forces landed when they seized Hong Kong in 1841.

During his campaign, Chan advertised that he went to Beijing in 1989 to support the pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square. Chan said he hoped this would appeal to voters who "fear the coming of 1997 and the Communist Party."

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority, on **Friday, March 10, 1995**, will hold a public hearing, as required by Section 147(f) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, with respect to a proposed issuance by the Commonwealth Ports Authority of Port Revenue Bonds, 1994 Series A in an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 for the purpose of financing and refinancing certain capital improvements, including docks, dredging and other renovations, improvements and expansions of the seaport, owned by the Authority and located at Saipan Harbor.

The Meeting will commence at **2 o'clock p.m.**, and will be held in the Commonwealth Ports Authority Conference Room at Saipan International Airport, Saipan Mariana Islands. Interested persons wishing to express their views on the issuance of such bonds or on the nature and location of the facilities being financed will be given an opportunity to do so at the public hearing or may, prior to the time of the hearing, submit written comments to Carlos A. Shoda, Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Saipan International Airport, or via mail to P.O. Box 1055, Saipan, MP 96950.

Date: February 21, 1995.

/s/VICTOR B. HOCOG  
 Chairman, Board of Director  
 Commonwealth Ports Authority

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NMC RFP NO. 95-128

The NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Contractor for MAINTENANCE MANPOWER SERVICES for the As Terlaje Campus, and NMC Housing Units.

The proposal is for an hourly rate quotation for Manpower Services in the field of construction for the repair and renovation of classrooms, offices and NMC housing units and is strictly on an On-Call basis for a period of one year. Contractors or bidders shall provide housing, transportation, liability insurance, and workman compensation. Proof of insurance and a copy of a current business license must be submitted with the proposal.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked NMC RFP No. 95-128; to the NMC Procurement & Property Management Office, NMC As Terlaje Campus, Bldg L, Saipan, no later than 11:00 am, March 17, 1995.

The Northern Marianas College reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defect in proposals if determined by the College to be in its best interests. All proposals shall become the property of NMC. For additional information call NMC Plant Facility Manager, Mr. Ben Diaz at 234-3690, extension #2310.

/s/John T. Flores  
 Procurement & Property Manager

/s/ Felicitas P. Abraham  
 Administrative Vice President, NMC

## PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

### CIVIL ACTION NO. 93-966

Marianas Bank, Ltd.,  
 Plaintiff  
 vs.  
 Serafina R. King,  
 Defendant

### SUMMON TO APPEAR OR PLEAD

The Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to Defendant, Serafina R. King. You are hereby summoned to appear within twenty (20) days after final Publication of this Summons, to wit: on or before the 10th day of April, 1995, and to defend the above titled action in the above entitled Court, and answer the Complaint to Plaintiff, Marianas Bank, Ltd., and serve a copy of your answer upon the Plaintiff's attorney.

Timothy H. Bellas  
 Attorney At Law  
 P.O. Box 2345  
 Saipan, MP 96950

If you fail to file an Answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by default pursuant to the Court rules of the above entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the said Complaint. So ORDERED on this 27th day of February, 1995.

/s/ Clerk of Court

## CPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Section 11 of Public Law 84-41, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby serves notice that it will hold its regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 1995 at 1:00 p.m. at the CPA Conference Room, Saipan International Airport.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes-February 10, 1995
- II. CORRESPONDENCE
- III. COMMITTEES REPORT
- IV. EXECUTIVE REPORT
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  1. S.B. 9-146 (Saipan Int'l Airport to Joeten Int'l Airport)
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (S)
- VIII. (Executive Session) LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

Victor B. Hocog  
 Chairman, Board of Directors  
 Date: March 1, 1995



# Peseta's decline prompts emergency EU meeting

By ELIZABETH D. WISE  
BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) - The European Union's monetary committee gathered for an emergency session Sunday, following the Spanish peseta's decline to a record low last week against the German mark.

Officials did not disclose the agenda of the meeting, held at Spain's request, but sources said the peseta's health was the central issue. The committee remained in session well into the evening but made no official announcements.

The surprise meeting followed two weeks of turmoil for the peseta within Europe's exchange-rate mechanism, or ERM, a currency grid established to link European Union currencies and allow for easier trade between the various nations.

The 15-nation EU said that Spain's central bank intervened regularly during the past week in efforts to prevent the peseta from sliding out of the currency grid.

Currently, the peseta is about 12 percent below its allotted level.

The EU's monetary committee, comprised of representatives of finance ministries and central banks of the 15 EU nations, has the power to make decisions on revaluations or devaluations of ERM currencies.

It can also decide to take currencies out of the system or modify their fluctuation bands.

During the past three years, the peseta has been devalued three times. There are also worries about the Portuguese escudo, which traditionally follows the fate of the peseta.

Currently, the currencies of Austria, Belgium, Denmark,

Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Portugal are linked in the EMS.

A source who spoke only on condition of anonymity said Spain could either seek a devaluation of the peseta or chose to leave the ERM entirely, like the British pound and Italian lira did in the fall of 1992.

Such action would be a blow for the Socialist government of Felipe Gonzalez, which has been a staunch defender of monetary union in the EU.

If the peseta leaves the grid or is devalued, it would make plans for a single EU currency more difficult.

Late Friday in European trading, the German mark stood at 88.31 pesetas, after touching a record high of 88.55 pesetas as recently as last Monday. "The bilateral central rates of the Spanish peseta against other currencies of the exchange rate mechanism have been reduced by 7 percent," the statement at the end of the meeting said.

The Committee also agreed "on a downward adjustment of the central rate of the Portuguese escudo by 3.5 percent."

"The Spanish authorities confirm their commitment to a stable exchange rate," the statement said, following fears Madrid could have chosen to leave the ERM entirely like the British pound and Italian lira did in the fall of 1992.

Over the past three years, the peseta has now been devalued four times and the escudo three times.

Ten of the 15 EU states currently make up the European Monetary System, which links

exchange rates of EU currencies in preparation for achieving a single EU currency by the end of the decade.

Currently, the monies of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Portugal are linked within the EMS. After the 1993 European currency crisis rocked the monetary system, the currencies were allowed to fluctuate 15 percent above or below a central rate instead of 2.25 and 6 percent beforehand to prevent the sort of market punishment that has been inflicted on the peseta.

But even a margin of 30 percent overall has failed to give the European currency markets a sense of stability.

Market sources said the Spanish central bank was seen intervening regularly during the past week, trying to prevent the peseta from slipping out of the currency grid.

The peseta had dropped to about 12 percent below the central rate and fears were it would drop further in the coming days without massive intervention.

The devaluation was a political blow for the Socialist government of Felipe Gonzalez, which has been a staunch defender of monetary union in the EU.

Confidence in the Spanish markets has been rocked by a political scandal over the past days, helping the peseta's slide downwards.

Gonzalez has repeatedly stated his opposition to a "two-speed" Europe in which Germany and a handful of other strong economies would proceed toward a single currency leaving weaker European nations in their wake.

## Request For Proposal PSS RFP 95-005

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting proposals from interested companies in providing a one year preventive maintenance and repair of the IBM Selectric Typewriter Machines Proposal requirements may be picked up at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, Lower Base, Saipan during regular working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday except Holidays. Proposers are required to provide their own tools, materials, supplies, and transportation to off island schools. Proposals must be submitted in triplicate copies. Proposals must be in sealed envelope facemasked "RFP95-005". Proposals may be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, March 31, 1995 at the PSS Procurement Office, Lower Base, Saipan. A non refundable fee of \$25.00 U.S. Dollars must accompany the proposal. The twenty five dollars may be a certified check, a cashier's check, or other forms acceptable by the Treasurer, Public School System, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Public School System reserves the right to award, amend, reject any or all proposals in the best interest of the public School System. Any question(s) pertaining to this announcement can contact the PSS Procurement Office at telephone number 322-6407.

/s/William S. Torres  
Commission of Education

/s/Louise Concepcion  
Procurement & Supply Officer

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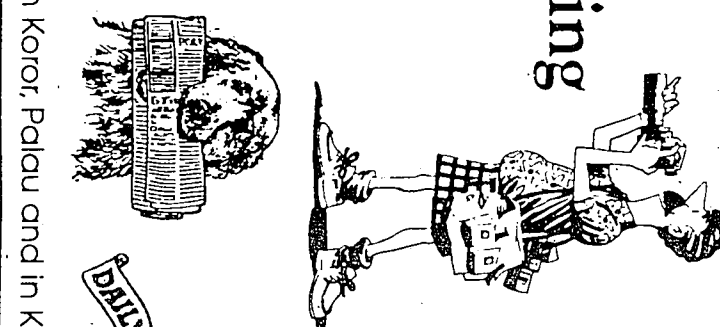
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## SPORTS



# Knicks, Jazz edge rivals

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** - Karl Malone, questionable until game time due to a sprained right ankle, had 30 points and nine rebounds Saturday as the Utah Jazz beat the Portland Trail Blazers 98-81.

Blue Edwards scored eight of his 10 points in the fourth quarter as Utah put the game away.

The Blazers were without Rod

Strickland, who sat out with a shoulder injury, and Cliff Robinson, also injured with a sprained right ankle. James Robinson led Portland with 23 points.

Knicks 89, Cavaliers 76

At Cleveland, John Starks sank seven 3-pointers and scored 29 points as the New York Knicks

beat the Cleveland Cavaliers for a split of their four-game season series.

New York won for the seventh time in nine games overall in winning its fifth consecutive road game against Cleveland. Each team has beaten the other twice this year - with the road team winning all four.

New York didn't trail in the sec-

ond half, and Starks sank four 3-pointers in the last five minutes. Patrick Ewing had 18 points and 13 rebounds, and Anthony Mason had 13 points and 14 rebounds for the Knicks.

The Cavs, who shot 38 percent in losing their fourth in a row, were led by John Williams with 20 points. Michael Cage pulled down 20 rebounds.

Pacers 101, Celtics 107

At Indianapolis, Dino Radja scored 23 points as the Boston Celtics sent the Indiana Pacers to

their third straight loss.

The victory snapped Indiana's 12-game home winning streak against the Celtics. Boston's last win at Market Square Arena was March 16, 1989.

Byron Scott led Indiana with 21 points off the bench. Reggie Miller and Vern Fleming added 15 apiece.

The Celtics survived a fourth quarter rally by Indiana that reduced an 18-point lead to nine. Derek Strong scored seven of his 10 points in the fourth to secure the victory.

## China pledges no more doping cases in swimming competition

By CHARLENE L. FU

**BEIJING (AP)** - China's swimming association pledged to the International Swimming Federation on Sunday that there will be no more doping cases among Chinese swimmers.

The assurance came from Guo Qinglong, secretary-general of the Chinese Swimming Association, said Gunnar Werner, secretary of FINA, which is conducting an unprecedented investigation into the use of performance-enhancing drugs by Chinese swimmers.

Werner did not say how Guo could make such a pledge if such drug use were not systematic, as

China repeatedly asserts.

The FINA probe was prompted by the positive drug tests of 11 Chinese swimmers last year, accounting for more than half of the total doping cases discovered in competitive swimming in the past two decades. The results led to accusations by many coaches and athletes from other countries that China's successes in swimming were due to widespread drug use.

Werner said the team still needs to study information and material it has gathered during its five-day visit before making any decisions.

The team will present a report to the FINA board at the end of this month

in Bangkok, and Werner refused to give any indication what conclusions and recommendations the delegation would make.

Werner said the delegation was satisfied that the Chinese Swimming Association has followed FINA rules and regulations in handling the doping cases, that China has a good doping education program and that Chinese sports officials are sincere in their desire to fight drug use.

The FINA members met with six swimmers, including Liu Bin, a three-time world champion, and Yang Aihua, the world 400-meter freestyle champion. The six were

Continued on page 19

## First amateur basketball league preparation is on

The preparation for the first Budweiser amateur basketball league is now in full swing with organizers ironing out details on how to make the league an exciting feat to cagers, live game audience and home television viewers.

The league is the result of a series of consultations the past month with some team members of the Philippine Amateur Basketball Association (PABA) and the Saipan Amateur Basketball

Association (SABA).

Dubbed as the First Budweiser Invitational Friendship League, the league will be solely sponsored by Marianas Pacific (MarPac) Budweiser, distributor of a complete line of Anheuser Busch beers.

It will feature teams from both SABA and PABA and a new all-American team coming in as the eleventh team.

The league formation is MarPac's way of helping prepare the betterment of the CNMI selection basketball team in the 1995 South Pacific Games in Tahiti in August.

The league will also hone the CNMI selection team's skills and improve their performance record in the prestigious regional sports competition.

The upcoming league is another milestone in the commitment of MarPac in supporting the development of local sports to a competitive level in the Pacific region.

Expected to be invited from the SABA league are the CNMI All

Continued on page 19

## American Kristy Powell wins in US gymnastics

**SEATTLE (AP)** - Romania's Ana Maria Bican just missed the all-around title at the McDonald's American Cup on Sunday but came back with Italy's Marcello Barbieri to win the International

Mixed Pairs gymnastic meet. Bican finished second to American Kristy Powell Saturday at the American Cup in the women's all-around. Bican, like Powell, is competing in her first year as a

senior gymnast.

The meet featured 14 male-female pairs. Most of the pairs were from the same country. The gymnasts such as Bican, the only representative from Romania, drew for partners.

Each gymnast elected their three favorite events. The group was cut to eight pairs after one round, three pairs after two.

Bican and Barbieri finished with a combined score of 56.90.

Bican, 15, scored a 9.75 on the vault and uneven bars and a 9.775 on the floor. Barbieri, 25, just missed

making the all-around cut Thursday at the American Cup, finishing ninth. He scored a 9.375 on the rings, 9.175 on the floor and 9.075 on the parallel bars.

Ukrainians Irina Bulakhova and Rustam Sharipov finished second with a combined score of 56.461.

An American team of Mohini Bhardwaj and Rob Kieffer placed third with a score of 55.625.

The pair was third entering the final round. Bhardwaj stepped out of bounds on her floor routine and Kieffer fell off the high bar.

## Budweiser leads in 13th PBA bowling tournament

**BUDWEISER** capitalized on the lackluster performance of CMS, Inc. and breezed to an easy, 4-0 victory to lead the 13th season of the Budweiser-Philippine Bowling Association League at the bowling center.

In Saturday's game, Nard Gemale led Budweiser with a three-game series of 533 pinfalls. Ed Cacha supported Gemale with a 535-pin series.

**Magnolia-D' Mixers, 4-0**

Robert Talavera played a brilliant three-game series of 652 and led newcomer Magnolia Ice Cream to a 4-0 shutout of D' Mixers. Talavera rolled games of 248, 224, and 180 to lead all scorers for the week.

After two games, Talavera appeared set to break the high scratch series record of 682 pinfalls set by 1994 PBA Bowler of the Year Ross Zapanta.

However, several miscues in the third game allowed Zapanta to keep the record for at least another week.

Talavera scored the highest series with a handicap of 676 pinfalls to win

the Budweiser male Bowler of the Week.

Each week, Budweiser donates one case of beer to the top male and female bowlers.

Talavera rolled five strikes in a row to win a gift certificate donated weekly by Whimsy.

Fun & Games-Mark Shark, 3-1

Defending champion Fun & Games, bidding to become the first team in the league to win two back-to-back titles, displayed awesome power in defeating last season's runner up Mark Sharks, 3-1.

After three weeks of play, Fun & Games holds the highest pinfalls of 8,960, or 76 pins ahead of the second best team in total pinfalls.

Wellington Ang rolled a three-game series of 574 pinfalls — games of 199, 195, and 180 — to lead the defending champions' onslaught.

Ross Zapanta rolled a series of 555 pinfalls, while Jerry Tan contributed

Continued on page 7

## Major League kicks off Friday

THE NEXT SEASON of the CNMI Major League baseball will kick off this coming Friday at the Francisco 'Tan Ko' Palacios Baseball Field in Susupe.

This was learned yesterday from Major League president Jack Taitano who said that league officials are ironing out last minute details of the league in a 6 p.m. meeting today, Tuesday, and this coming Wednesday, same time.

Taitano is calling the attention of all team officials to attend in the 6 p.m. meeting.

The league ended last year with the Toyota Wheels as champion and Kautz Glass Glazers as the

pennant titlist.

Seven teams participated in the last season.

This season, the league is down to six teams. One of the teams is composed of the same set of players with new members from the big league but under a new team name.

Playing in the upcoming league are the Toyota Wheels, Kautz Glass Glazers, the Chiefs, Continental Micronesia Flyers, UMDA Aces, and Miller Brewers, formerly Seabees Four. The Sharks team dropped out from the league.

The league format is a two, round-robin elimination with the

top four teams slugging it out in a best-of-three series. The best

Continued on page 19

## Softball coaches, managers to meet

IN LINE with the upcoming Bud Light Triple Crown slow-pitch softball tournament, a meeting of all team managers and coaches will be held today, Tuesday, March 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the Ada gymnasium conference room.

To be discussed in the meeting are: the collection of the \$200 fee, tournament opening date, additional field to hold the tournament and to pass out

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